

NC now 9th largest state; SC has growth spurt

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The Carolinas continue to rank among the nation's fastest-growing states, newly released U.S. Census population estimates show.

North Carolina has overtaken Michigan to become the nation's ninth-largest state, adding more than 95,000 new residents between July 2013 and July 2014. That pushed the state's total estimated population to just shy of 10 million.

"People want to live in a place where they can fulfill their potential," said Gov. Pat McCrory. "And for an increasing number of Americans and people throughout the world, that place is North Carolina."

South Carolina added more than 60,000 new residents to reach a total population of more than 4.8 million. That put the Palmetto

State's growth rate among the top ten fastest-growing state's nationally.

Michael Walden, an economics professor at North Carolina State University, said the new numbers bear out the decades-long trend of high growth in Sun Belt states benefiting from northern retirees seeking warmer climes and businesses seeking weaker government regulations and a cheaper workforce.

"The Southeast, in general, has grown faster than the rest of the nation over the last 30 or 40 years," Walden said. "The retiring Baby Boomers are much more mobile than they used to be, seeking better weather. Businesses like it here because we're an open-shop state with minimal unions."

Walden said he expects the growth to continue, with North Carolina's pop-

ulation approaching 14 million by mid-century. The newcomers will intensify urban development along the interstate corridor running from the Triangle through the Triad down to Charlotte. Rural counties, however, will continue to thin out as young people seek better opportunities in the cities, Walden predicted.

That, in turn, will tax roads and infrastructure in the decades to come.

"We will become a more urbanized state," Walden said. "Adding people usually leads to a bigger economy. But there will be challenges in respect to more traffic congestion and the school systems in those fast-growing counties. Housing costs also tend to be higher in more densely populated areas. I think it behooves public-policy makers to think ahead."

Severe weather slams southern U.S.; 4 killed

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Severe weather slamming the southern U.S. two days before Christmas killed at least four people, flipped cars, knocked out power to thousands and damaged several homes and businesses.

In Mississippi, Gov. Phil Bryant declared an emergency for two southeastern counties where officials say four people died in the storms and several more were injured. His office said thousands were without power Tuesday night around Columbia, which is about 80 miles southeast of Jackson.

Jones County Emergency Management director Marda Tullos said a man and woman were killed inside a mobile home in the storm's path in Laurel. About 50 miles southwest, Marion County coroner Norma Williamson tells WDAM that two people were killed in Columbia. One person was in a trailer park, another at a strip mall.

She said the Marion County hospital emergency room in Columbia was dealing with many patients.

Photos tweeted by from several local media and the National Weather Service in Jackson showed damage to a Walgreens, car dealership, day care and the strip mall.

Meteorologist Latrice Maxie said significant damage has been reported to homes and businesses in the city of about 6,500 people. A survey team will be sent Wednesday to determine whether a tornado was responsible, she said.

Economy helps lift Dow to 18K

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — A surge in U.S. economic growth lifted stocks Tuesday to record highs and showed that the United States is putting distance between itself and struggling economies around the world.

Fueled by hiring gains, cheaper gas and rising confidence, consumers and businesses drove growth to a sizzling 5 percent annual rate last quarter. Though the economy is likely cooling a bit, its solid pace is brightening hopes for 2015.

The economic strength could also shape the Federal Reserve's timetable for raising interest rates from record lows.

The government's third and final estimate of growth for the July-September period was the strongest for any quarter in 11 years. The result cheered investors. The Dow Jones industrial average ended the day up about 64 points to 18,024, the first time it's surpassed 18,000.

In its report Tuesday, the government sharply upgraded third-quarter growth from its previous 3.9 percent estimate. Much of the increase came from consumer spending on health care and business spending on structures and software.

The economy has been benefiting from sinking energy prices, which have helped keep overall inflation ultra-low. Gas prices have fallen for 88 straight days, according to AAA, the longest consecutive decline on record. Cheaper gas has acted like a tax cut to free up money for Americans to spend on other items, including cars, clothes and appliances.



Matt Born / The Star-News / AP

Cynthia Dodd-Simonson shops at a Family Dollar store in Wilmington, N.C., earlier this year. The U.S. economy grew at a sizzling 5 percent annual rate in the July-September period, the fastest since 2003, fueled by higher consumer spending and business investment.

Last quarter's growth was the fastest since summer 2003, and it followed a 4.6 percent annual rate in the April-June quarter. The government separately reported Tuesday that in November, consumer spending rose the most in three months and income by the most in five months. Both figures brightened hopes for the 2015 economy.

"After four years of rocky recovery the U.S. economy is now hitting its stride with a notable acceleration in growth," said Gus Faucher, senior economist at PNC Financial Services Group. "Growth should remain good next year, with lower gasoline prices a big plus for consumers."

Sal Guatieri, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, said he now expects healthy consumer spending to fuel economic growth of 2.6 percent in the current October-December period. And Guatieri foresees solid growth of 3.1 percent next year. That would be the best performance since the economy grew 3.3 percent in 2005, two years

before the Great Recession began.

Since the recession officially ended in June 2009, the economy has struggled to regain full health. Five years of growth have averaged an anemic 2.2 percent.

Tuesday's figures are sure to be closely studied by the Fed. Last week, the Fed ended a policy meeting by saying it would be "patient" in deciding when to raise rates because the economy wasn't yet fully healthy. Many investors concluded that no rate hike was likely before mid-2015 at the earliest, and they drove stocks to record highs.

Unexpectedly strong expansion, though, could escalate pressure on the Fed to raise rates, even though inflation remains well below its 2 percent target. One reason the Fed has kept its benchmark short-term rate near zero since 2008 has been to try to lift inflation from excessively low levels.

The government's figures Tuesday showed that the inflation gauge the Fed most closely watches has risen

just 1.2 percent over the past 12 months. Partly as a result, few analysts think Tuesday's figures will prompt the Fed to raise rates in early 2015.

"We don't see the Fed moving before June," said Dough Handler, chief economist at IHS Global Insight.

And when the Fed does begin raising rates, Handler and others think the increases will be gradual and have only a slight effect on growth.

Also on Tuesday, the University of Michigan said its index of consumer sentiment found that U.S. consumers were more optimistic about the economy than at any other point in the past eight years, buoyed by more jobs and falling gas prices.

Two other reports Tuesday were more cautionary: The government said sales of new homes fell in November, evidence that job gains have yet to boost the housing sector. And it said factory orders for long-lasting manufactured goods slumped last month.

Still, the overall U.S. economy is showing resurgent strength and separating itself from others around the world. Europe is struggling to grow. So is Brazil. Japan has slid into recession. China is straining to manage a slowdown. Russia envisions a recession next year.

Many economists think U.S. growth will continue to strengthen as more businesses grow confident enough to hire. The country is on track to have its healthiest year for job growth since 1999. In November, employers added 321,000 jobs, the sharpest one-month increase in three years.

LOTTERIES

Tuesday drawings

Michigan Poker Lotto JC-7C-8D-9D-9H Midday Daily 3 6-2-3 Midday Daily 4 9-4-0-1 Daily 3 6-2-1 Daily 4 5-4-9-0 Fantasy 5 06-13-36-38-39 Keno 04-06-11-13-16-20-21-24-31-32-35-38-41-42-43-47-52-54-63-67-68-79 Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$142 million Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$100 million Indiana Quick Draw Midday	02-07-09-16-17-19-20-29-33-38-39-41-43-53-55-58-59-61-67-74 Daily Three-Midday 3-0-4 Daily Four-Midday 0-7-6-2 Illinois Hit or Miss Morning 01-04-06-07-10-11-12-16-19-22-23-24, GLN : 2 LuckyDay Lotto Midday 12-17-19-38-45 Pick Three-Midday 6-0-6, Fireball: 3 Pick Four-Midday 4-7-7-3, Fireball: 3 Monday evening drawings Indiana Cash 5 02-08-17-29-30 Poker Lotto QH-4D-8D-5H-10H Daily Three-Evening 6-1-0	Daily Four-Evening 0-8-8-3 Quick Draw Evening 10-17-21-29-30-33-39-44-48-49-51-53-57-58-62-65-69-71-72-73 Illinois Hit or Miss Drive 04-05-07-08-10-12-14-16-17-20-21-24, GLN : 5 Hit or Miss Evening 01-02-03-04-12-15-18-19-21-22-23-24, GLN : 2 Lotto 06-13-20-36-37-50, Extra Shot: 19 Estimated jackpot: \$13 million Pick Three-Evening 4-2-2, Fireball: 1 Pick Four-Evening 7-2-3-0, Fireball: 4 Lucky Day Lotto 16-29-30-40-43 Estimated jackpot: \$850,000 — The Associated Press
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Elusive black bear spotted again in Phoenix suburb

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — A black bear that caused a stir when it ran through a field in a Phoenix suburb has been spotted again, a state wildlife official said Tuesday.

Residents reported seeing the bear twice between 3:30 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. in east Mesa, Arizona Game and Fish spokeswoman Amy Burnett said.

Wildlife personnel had been searching near the Mesa airport, but the animal hasn't been located. The agency is halting the search for now, she said.

"It's called off until we have another confirmed sighting," Burnett said.

Bears typically move around in the evening and morning, so a sighting in the middle of the day would be unlikely, she added. Anyone who does see the bear is advised to call Game and Fish or local police.

"Do not approach it," Burnett said. "Don't try to feed it."

Officials say they hope to relocate the animal to a more suitable habitat.

TV news helicopters captured video Monday of the bear bounding across an alfalfa field on the outskirts of Mesa, and then standing within feet of a game warden wielding a tranquilizer gun.

The bear proved elusive after it entered a former

General Motors test site filled with fields, shrubbery and trees. Officials decided the site was too large to search.

Wildlife officials cautioned that the bear is a wild animal but also noted it was running from people and not acting aggressively.

It's unknown where the bear came from or how long it has been in the area. Black bears are the only species of bears living in Arizona, with an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 of them in the state, wildlife officials say.

Officials say the sighting is rare for the Phoenix metro area, where a bear is spotted once every couple of years.

BREAK-IN

From page A1

suspects and their vehicle.

The vehicle was spotted and stopped by sheriff's Deputy Tom Dyer near Niles Avenue and I-94 in St. Joseph Township.

The driver of the vehicle did not have a license. A search of the driver turned up a credit card of the homeowner. Jewelry believed

to have been taken from the home was also found during a search of the vehicle

The male suspects are two adults, ages 17 and 20, and a 16-year-old juvenile, all from Benton Harbor. They were taken to the Berrien County jail.

The Lincoln Township and St. Joseph Township police and the Michigan State Police are assisting in the investigation.

TRAPPED

From page A1

her seat and became pinned between the vehicle and the neighbor's garage. The two garages face each other with room to drive between them, police said.

"It is believed while backing out of the garage the driver accelerated prior

to his wife shutting the car door," police stated in a news release.

Assisting the St. Joseph Township Police Department and Med Flight were the St. Joseph Township Fire Department, Medic 1 Ambulance, Lincoln Township Police Department and St. Joseph Department of Public Safety.

Happy Holidays from
The Herald-Palladium!

Lobby Hours:
Christmas Eve: 9:00am-12:00pm • Christmas Day: Closed
New Years Eve: 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:30pm-4:00pm • New Years Day: Closed

Newspaper Services Holiday Hours Schedule:
Christmas Eve: 7:00am-12:00pm • Christmas Day: 7:00am-10:00am
New Years Eve: 7:00am-4:00pm • New Years Day: 7:00am-10:00am

There will not be any re-deliveries of papers on Christmas Day.
All missed papers will be delivered with Friday's papers.

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Flu outbreak prompts change in Lakeland visitor guidelines

By HP STAFF

ST. JOSEPH — Because of an increase in the number of flu cases, Lakeland HealthCare is asking the community to follow a revised visitation policy for hospitals in Southwest Michigan.

“Community members are asked to stay home and not visit loved ones at the hospital if you are sick and/or contagious. If you have, or have recently had a fever, runny nose, cough, body aches, you may be contagious,” according to a news release.

Visitors should be limited to immediate family members and those over age 18.

According to Lakeland, “If you are sick, seek medical treatment from your doctor, at a walk-in clinics, or at the emergency department. It is not too late to have a flu shot to protect yourself and your

family.”

For people who have had the flu shot:

- The flu shot does not protect people against either stomach or common cold viruses, since those are not part of a flu vaccine.
- For people who think they have the flu despite being vaccinated (high fever, body aches, sore throat, cough, etc.), early treatment with antiviral medications like Tamiflu® are recommended, as is prompt treatment.

“If you want to stay well, stay away from people who are sick; avoid touching your mouth, nose, and eyes at all times, unless you have just washed your hands; wash your hands frequently. If soap and water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer,” Lakeland said.

For updates on the flu and tips to stay healthy, visit www.cdc.gov/flu.



Photos by John Matuszak / HP Staff

Enjoying a day at the Curious Kids' Museum Discovery Zone “Hands-On Harley” exhibit Monday are, from left, Casey Mitchell, Taylor Mitchell and Amelia Kinney. The museum in the Silver Beach Center has special hours and exhibits for winter break. Kids can ride models of motorcycles with screens that show them the road, and work with simple tools as part of the “Things Move” exhibit.

Curious Kids’, carousel keep kids moving during break

By JOHN MATUSZAK
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — During this winter break, kids can take a cross-country motorcycle ride or a canoe trip back into history, courtesy of the Curious Kids’ Museum in St. Joseph and the Discovery Zone below the bluff at the Silver Beach Center.

Both museums, along with the Silver Beach Carousel, have special hours and activities now through Jan. 4.

At the Discovery Zone, little Easy Riders can hop on a hog at the “Hands-On Harley-Davidson” exhibit, part of the “Things Move” display on machines.

Kids watch a screen that shows the wide open road, and even shows them riding along. They can mix and match parts and license plates on the bike, plus try on helmets. A police motorcycle even has a siren.

Elsewhere in the museum, they can use ramps, levers and fulcrums as they learn about such principles as force, friction and acceleration, explained museum volunteer Hannah Marciniak.

One activity demonstrates how gravity works by letting kids roll a golf ball down a track and through a loop. A sensor clocks the ball in centimeters per second.

In another room, kids can use Legos, tools and a spirograph to draw spirals.

Earlier this week Amy

Kinney was visiting from suburban Chicago with her daughter Amelia, 6, and her friends Taylor and Casey Mitchell, 6 and 8.

Amelia is here visiting her grandparents, Len and Faith Timm, of St. Joseph. The Mitchell sisters, also from the Chicago area, were with their grandmother, Cindy Mitchell, and are spending the holidays at the family farm in Sawyer.

Kinney has been bringing Amelia to the Curious Kids’ Museum since her daughter was a toddler, and said it is a great place to take the kids to let them play while they learn, especially on cold days.

“Things Move” will be on display through January. After that, the Discovery Zone will host a Wild West exhibit, Marciniak said.

At the Curious Kids’ Museum on Lake Boulevard, youngsters can journey back 40,000 years to learn about “The Earliest Americans.”

Those first settlers came across the Bering Straits during the last Ice Age and some of them eventually made it to what became Southwest Michigan, offered Gina Mason, Curious Kids’ education director.

“The Earliest Americans” will only be on display until Jan. 3.

Kids can paddle a canoe or pow wow in a teepee or a long house. They can try on clothing similar to what was worn by the natives of



Paddling a canoe at the Curious Kids’ Museum’s “Earliest Americans” exhibit on Native Americans are, from left, Anderson Schroeder, Nathan Dine and Natalie Schroeder.

the area.

Part of the display includes a hand-made feather headdress donated by an 80-year-old patron of the museum, along with arrowheads and other artifacts.

At the crafts table, kids can make a miniature teepee or their own woven dreamcatcher.

The Curious Kids Discovery Zone will have the following hours during winter break: Friday-Saturday, Dec. 29-30, Jan. 2-3, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 28, Jan. 4, noon-5 p.m.

The Curious Kids’ Museum will be open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 29-30, and Jan. 2-3; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 28, Jan. 4.

Also in the Silver Beach Center, the Silver Beach Carousel also has holiday hours and special events.

On Friday there will be a

Christmas Polka Party with free root beer and carols played on the accordion. The carousel will host a New Year’s Eve Party Dec. 31 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and will have its fifth birthday celebration Jan. 2-4.

Carousel hours are 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 29-30; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Jan. 2-3; and noon-5 p.m. Jan. 4.

The museums and carousel are closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, along with New Year’s Day.

Information on the Curious Kids’ Museum is at www.curiouskidsmuseum.org.

Information on the Silver Beach Carousel is at www.silverbeachcarousel.com.

Contact: jmatuszak@theHP.com, 932-0360, Twitter: @HPMatuszak

Hagar Township company expanding

By ANDREW LERSTEN
HP Staff Writer

COLOMA — SPI Blow Molding of Hagar Township is expanding, and more jobs will be on the way as a result, company officials said this week.

A new 2,400-square-foot storage building that will house fixtures and equipment was recently completed, and a 6,000-square-foot addition to the production plant will be built in the spring, said General Manager Ed Trapp.

The company, 3930 Bessemer Road, now has 32,000 square feet of space.

The company has 22 employees and expects to add at least eight to 10 more

when the project is finished, Trapp said.

The former Modern Plastics company was purchased in 2008 and is the sister company of SPI Industries, South Bend.

The company makes customized blow-molded parts for several industries, including the agricultural, automotive and food container industries.

“When both phases are completed, SPI Blow Molding will have enhanced its ability to mold, assemble, box and ship products to its customers,” said Company President Jeff Doster. “(It) will also open up several new jobs to the area.”

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Andrew Lersten / HP staff

SPI Blow Molding in Hagar Township is expanding. As a result it expects to add about 10 jobs next year.

COLOMA

Wooley steps down from two boards

By ANDREW LERSTEN
HP Staff Writer

COLOMA — In the wake of being hit with embezzlement charges, Bob Wooley has resigned from the North Berrien Fire Rescue Board and a regional sewer authority board.

He represented the city of Coloma on both boards.

Wooley was recently charged with embezzling more than \$100,000 from the North Berrien Senior Center, where he is the director. The theft allegedly began about seven years



WOOLEY

ago.

Wooley also was treasurer of the fire board. The board has discovered several financial irregularities — including possibly forged signatures on checks — in an audit done after he was charged.

“Given what’s going on, I have asked for his resignation and he has given it to me,” Mayor Jim Polashak told the City Commission on Monday night.

Wooley also represents the Coloma area on the Berrien County Board of Commissioners.

Polashak appointed City Commissioner Linda Freitag to take Wooley’s place on the fire board and appointed City Clerk Martha Darling to the Paw Paw Lake Area Wastewater

Treatment plant board.

In other city news, the mayor and commission formally honored Don Burleson of Benton Township for his volunteer work this year repainting city curbs.

“We could use a hundred citizens like you,” the mayor told Burleson, who received a \$100 debit card from the city. “Thank you for being such a good citizen.”

The commission voted to discontinue rental of a bank security box at Chemical Bank.

“We have a fireproof file in our safe here,” at City Hall, the mayor said. The city had been renting the box for many years.

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Lake Township hikes water, sewer rates

By JANET HAYES
HP Correspondent

BRIDGMAN — While holding its 2015 expenses to a 0.5 percent increase, Lake Township approved a 30 percent water and sewer rate hike aimed at reducing the large subsidy historically paid from the general fund.

Continuing to levy 3 mills, the township projects an operating income of \$3.8 million and about \$3.5 million in expenses, leaving a healthy \$300,000 fund balance. The budget was unanimously approved last week at the township’s regular meeting.

In a separate vote, all board members approved in-township residential waters rates to increase to \$22 per month per 10,000 gallons, up from \$17. Sew-

er rates will increase to \$84 per month, up from \$69. Water rates for out-of-township customers, which include Chikaming and Baroda townships, will increase to 1.5 times the Lake Township rate based on negotiated contracts.

Noting that the township’s rates remain among the lowest in the area, Supervisor John Gast said the new rates will begin in the April 2015 billing cycle.

“It’s painful but we are headed in the right direction. We are trying to be sensitive by not just doubling the rates, but trying every other year,” Gast said.

The adjustments are being made on the 2012 recommendation of the township’s financial consultant to make the water and sew-

er systems self-sustaining by gradually decreasing the subsidy it has historically received from the township’s general fund.

“We’re not making money on this by any means and this isn’t the end. Every time we put in an increase, the expenses also go up,” said Treasurer Bob Clark.

“We’re paying the price for not increasing in the past. We are trying to do the right thing now by making things pay for themselves,” said Trustee Jim Stine.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a 2 percent salary increase for all employees and elected officials and granted \$50 in holiday pay.

IN BRIEF

Warrant check leads to drug arrest

BUCHANAN – Police arrested a Buchanan man Monday night after a check for outstanding warrants led to the discovery of a methamphetamine lab and illegal drugs, Berrien County sheriff’s officers said.

Sheriff’s road patrol officers and Buchanan police went to at house at 313 N. Red Bud Trail while checking information about the resident being sought on warrants.

The man allowed officers into the house where they discovered a meth lab, finished meth, related equipment and marijuana, police said.

The alleged drugs were seized and police dismantled and removed the hazardous material from the residence, said Lt. James Zehm of the sheriff’s Narcotics Unit.

The man was arrested on two outstanding warrants and faces new charges – all second offenses – of possession of marijuana, possession of methamphetamine, manufacture of methamphetamine, manufacturing methamphet-

amine within 500 feet of a residence and maintaining a drug house.

The suspect was being held in the county jail and was expected to be arraigned on the new charges today in Berrien County Trial Court.

Trio waive right to prelim

ST. JOSEPH — Three young men will face trial on charges stemming from the alleged armed robbery of a St. Joseph man.

Warren Clark, 18, of St. Joseph, Aaron Bogan, 18, and Chester Sanders, 17, both of Benton Harbor, waived their right to a preliminary hearing Tuesday in Berrien County Trial Court.

They were bound over for trial on charges of armed robbery and conspiracy to commit an illegal act earlier this month on Lions Park Drive in St. Joseph when they allegedly stole an iPhone from a friend using a toy gun.

Assistant Prosecutor Jake Jenison said a case conference is set for Jan. 16 and a trial is scheduled for Feb. 24.

RATES

From page A3

■ Agreed to “get a handle” on the cost of renting uniforms after Trustee John Wilk questioned the more than \$1,000 monthly bill for township employees’ uniforms.

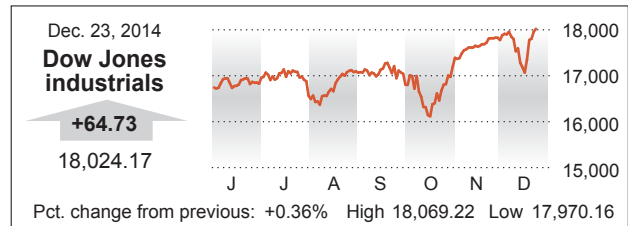
■ Approved \$24,500 to rebuild, with a five-year

warranty, a 40-year-old water plant pump.

■ Approved the purchase of a new copy machine for \$7,900.

■ Learned the township’s redesigned website is ready to go live with easier navigation, added information, accessible forms and documents. The website address is lake-township.org.

MARKETS



LOCAL GRAIN

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Corn\$3.69, up 2¢
January corn 2015\$3.69, up 11¢

Beans\$9.89, up 1¢
January beans 2015\$9.89, up 4¢
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New Buffalo Twp. files suit against The Pokagon Fund

By JANET HAYES
HP Correspondent

NEW BUFFALO – New Buffalo Township and The Pokagon Fund are headed for a court date next month over the Fund’s refusal to seat Township Clerk Paul Oselka as the township’s representative to the TPF board of directors.

The township filed suit last week in Berrien County Circuit Court for a restraining order to allow Oselka as its representative in all TPF meetings. The filing came the morning after a closed session during the township’s monthly meeting. After the meeting, township attorney Michael Homier declined to comment on legal strategy but said he would consider the TPF’s offer of mediation.

The matter resurfaced when the Fund denied Oselka admittance to its Dec. 10 annual meeting after his re-appointment by the township earlier that morning. Township Trustee Pete Rahm had been serving at the township’s interim representative.

“All The Pokagon Fund had to do was let Paul into their meeting and none of this would have happened. I completely agree that this money (attorney and court costs) could be spent on other things but the township needs representation on the board,” said Supervisor Rosann Dudiak when contacted on Monday.

TPF issued a press release on Monday, vowing to defend its actions and attached several documents supporting its conflict of interest charges against Oselka.

“TPF believes that its actions are proper, lawful and in the best interests of the community, and it intends to defend this lawsuit vigorously. TPF, however, remains willing to attempt to resolve this dispute through negotiations, and avoid what are likely to be significant legal expenses that all parties will be required to bear. But, that course of action requires the agreement of NBT, which has not yet been forthcoming,” said the Fund’s release.

“There is nothing to mediate. We appointed Paul Oselka and they don’t have any right to refuse him. I don’t know what they are afraid of. Paul Oselka is just one vote on their board,” Dudiak said, adding that Homier was drafting a response to the request for

mediation. The dispute between the two parties dates back to October 2013 when TPF removed Oselka “for cause” related to conflict of interest charges that it said could threaten its non-profit status. Oselka denies any conflict of interest. The township contends TPF “wrongfully and without legal authority” removed Oselka.

The Pokagon Fund is a private, charitable organization that was created in 2000 as part of the local agreement through which the Pokagon Band gained needed support to open the Four Winds Casino from New Buffalo Township and the city of New Buffalo. It has dispersed more than \$19 million since the casino opened in 2007.

Ex-U.S. Marine held in Iran suspends hunger strike

By DAVID N. GOODMAN
Associated Press

DETROIT — The family of an ex-U.S. Marine imprisoned in Iran says he’s temporarily suspending a hunger strike after authorities agreed to re-examine his case.

Amir Hekmati, 31, told his Michigan family by phone Dec. 16 that he was beginning the hunger strike, and dictated a letter asking President Barack Obama not to forget him as dialogue continues with Iran over its nuclear activities.

On Tuesday, the Flint-area family said in an email it learned that Hekmati agreed to suspend his hunger strike, and Evin prison officials promised “they would take certain steps to have his case revisited by appropriate Iranian government authorities.”

Hekmati was arrested in 2011 and sentenced to death for spying. The U.S. denies he’s a spy.

He appealed and received a 10-year sentence for “cooperating with hostile governments.”

In his letter to Obama, Hekmati said, “Every day, I wake hoping that there is news of my release. Every night, I go to sleep disappointed.”

“Amir and the Hekmati family deeply appreciate all of those who have joined Amir in solidarity,” the family said in its email to The Associated Press. “All of those who are helping to free Amir. The family, particularly Amir’s ailing father, is deeply moved by the thousands have joined the campaign.”

Ali Hekmati has been diagnosed with brain cancer.

“Amir has indicated that he will resume his hunger strike if real action is not taken on his case with real results,” his family said. “Three years is too long. Amir Hekmati is innocent.”

Michigan U.S. Rep.



AP Photo

The family of Hekmati, an ex-U.S. Marine imprisoned in Iran said he’s temporarily suspending a hunger strike after authorities agreed to re-examine his case.

Dan Kildee, who represents the Hekmati family’s district, called the suspension of the hunger strike in exchange for a re-examination of the case against Hekmati “a positive development” but said other Marines would continue fasting in his support.

“Amir has languished in Iran’s Evin prison for over 1,000 days and it is time for him to be reunited with his family in Michigan,” the Flint Democrat said in a statement. “If Iran is serious about rejoining the global community, it can help create the trust necessary by releasing Amir.”

Cop gives gift cards, not tickets

BELLEVUE, (AP) — A police officer inspired by the generosity of others with a badge is giving gifts instead of tickets in southwestern Michigan.

Bellevue Officer Edward Michela says it’s “better to give than to receive.” So drivers pulled over this week have been receiving gift cards for restaurants.

The Battle Creek En-

quirer says Diane Simons was stopped Monday for rolling through a stop sign. The result? A meal at Applebee’s. The 53-year-old says, “Bellevue rocks.”

Michela says he decided to give gifts after hearing about similar efforts by police in the Grand Rapids area community of Lowell and in Florida. He’s been an officer in Bel-

levue, in Eaton County, since 2000.

Michela says seeing happy people gives him a chill up his spine.

“When they get stopped for an infraction they are going to think they are going to get a ticket,” Michela said as he sat in his patrol car. “But it’s that old saying: ‘It’s better to give than receive.’ I love to

see the expression on people’s faces.”

He said that when he saw a story about the police effort in Lowell, “I said I wished I could do something like that. So I was in Kohls and went kind of crazy on gift cards.”

Michela said he used his own money to buy six \$15 cards for Subway and four \$25 cards for Applebees.

2 Michigan Supreme Court justices are like family

By ED WHITE
Associated Press

DETROIT — The Michigan Supreme Court’s newest justice is at ease with Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. After all, Richard Bernstein is like family.

In fact, there’s Bernstein in the front row of a large photo at the Young family reunion in 2013.

“Little did I know,” Young told The Associated Press, “that he would be my colleague – as well as my cousin.”

Well, not exactly. But Bernstein was welcomed at the reunion as a guest of Cynthia Overton of Silver Spring, Maryland, his best friend and Young’s cousin.

The Young family gets together every few years, usually around July Fourth. The 2013 gathering drew

roughly 50 people to a northern Virginia hotel.

“He participated in all of the events,” Young said. “We had a tour of Washington and so on. The last day is the banquet. We honor the lately departed and those with life achievements. Then we have a family portrait.”

“It was unusual,” he said, “but our family has lots of people over the years who have been to family events.”

Bernstein is a Democrat, and his family’s law firm represents people who have been injured in car wrecks, slip-and-falls and medical malpractice. Young, a Republican with a strict interpretation of law, is not a favorite of plaintiffs’ lawyers.

Overton said she’s known Bernstein since the 1990s when they worked

together on issues facing the disabled. Bernstein, who is blind, will be sworn into office on Jan. 1 after finishing second in a race for two Supreme Court seats.

“I wish I was in the legal profession so I could have a better appreciation for this,” Overton said. “They’re kind-spirited, nice and decent. Their perspective, their

view, their approaches may be different, but I know them in the context as people.”

Bernstein, 41, said the reunion was “wonderful.” He describes Young, 63, as a warm, funny guy.

“His family refers to him as ‘Skipper,’” Bernstein said. “I call him ‘Chief’ and he calls me ‘cousin.’”

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Caring cookies

Sweet treats just one part of Christmas meal at BH’s Soup Kitchen

By JANE AMMESON
HP Correspondent

Helping others is part of the holiday spirit and this year, Harbor County Progressives (HCP) have enlisted the aid of Chicago mega-chef Jackie Shen, who recently moved to Southwest Michigan and owns Jackie’s Café in New Buffalo. She’ll make turkey and gravy for the Soup Kitchen in Benton Harbor as part of their Christmas meal.

“It’s all about making sure that people get a great meal,” says HCP member Shari Del Mariani.

The Soup Kitchen, which operates with the mission statement to “feed people in need” and provides large, healthy meals at noontime 365 days of the year, serves almost 55,000 adults and children a year. Nationwide, one in six adults and one in five children have some type of food insufficiency.

“This is not the first time HCP has cooked and served at the Soup Kitchen,” says Ginny Washburn, who formerly lived in Chicago where she worked in public relations and now lives in Grand Beach. “Last Christmas season, HCP purchased and cooked ham and fresh sweet potatoes.”

Since around 2008, HCP – which also prepares and serves food at the Soup Kitchen the fourth Monday of every other month – raises funds to pay for the food through bake sales and by holding raffles at the HCP Movie Night at the Vickers Theater in Three Oaks.

“Often chefs and restaurant owners join the volunteers,” Washburn says. “Ibrahim Parlak of Cafe Gulistan in Harbert and Judy Kite-Gosh, owner of the former Kite’s Kitchen in New Buffalo – where Jackie’s Café is now located – have helped on many occasions. This is, however, the first year that we’ve cooked turkeys.”

Turkey isn’t the only thing on the menu at the Soup Kitchen this year.

Del Mariani, who lives in Stevensville and is a retired KitchenAid employee, is organizing members of the Berrien County Democratic Women, who are baking platters of Christmas cookies to accompany the meal. That includes whipping up many of Del Mariani’s own holiday favorites, including Anise Almond Biscotti from a generations-old family recipe.

Viola Nielsen, who describes her cookie offering as nothing fancy, baked “lots” of her favorite – peanut butter cookies.

“Nobody should ever be hungry at any time,” Del Mariani says. “And it’s all about people taking care of each other.”

Viola Nielsen’s Peanut Butter Cookies

- 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1/2 cup peanut butter (plus 2 tablespoons for extra flavor)
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Sugar
Heat oven to 375 degrees. Combine brown sugar, butter, and peanut butter in bowl. Beat on medium speed until well mixed. Add egg and vanilla; continue beating until well mixed. Add flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Beat at low speed until well mixed.

Shape dough into 1-inch balls; roll in sugar. Place 2 inches apart onto ungreased cookie sheets; flatten balls in criss-cross pattern with fork dipped in sugar. Bake 8-10 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Makes 36 cookies.

Shari Del Mariani’s Anise Almond Biscotti

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup butter (unsalted), softened



Dozens of Christmas cookies, baked by members of the Berrien County Democratic Women, are being donated to the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen’s Christmas dinner.

- 1/2 tablespoon pure almond extract
- 2 tablespoons crushed anise seeds
- 1 tablespoon anise extract
- 1 tablespoon water
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 medium eggs
- 2 3/4 cups all-purpose (unbleached) flour
- 1/2 tablespoon baking powder

In stand mixer bowl, combine sugar, almonds, butter anise seeds, anise extract, water and vanillas. Add eggs one at a time. In another bowl, mix flour, baking powder and salt. Add flour mixture to ingredients already mixed in stand mixer bowl and mix on medium speed until well mixed. Remove dough from bowl and work into round loaf and refrigerate covered for 3 hours.

Divide dough in half and roll each section into a tube about 9 to 10 inches long. Place on parchment lined or lightly sprayed cookie sheet. Flatten each tube into a log about 3 inches across.

Bake in preheated 375-degree oven for 20 minutes or until firm and lightly browned. Remove to cooling rack. Cool for 5 minutes. Cut logs on the diagonal into 3/4-inch slices (a finely serrated knife works best to prevent crumbling using a sawing stroke). Stand the slices back on the cookie sheet with enough space between each for air flow and bake for 10 minutes or until firm and lightly browned. Remove and cool on rack. In a sealed container, biscotti should last for 3 weeks.

Shari Del Mariani’s Candy Cane Blossoms

- 48 Hershey Kisses
- 1/2 cup butter (softened)
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoon milk

Red and green sprinkles or sugar

Preheat oven to 350. Mix butter, granulated sugar, egg and vanilla until well blended. Stir together flour, baking soda and salt. Add alternately with milk to butter mixture. Shape dough into 1-inch balls and roll in sugar of one or more colored sugars and place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes or until edges brown.

Remove from oven and let cool 2 minutes. Press kisses into center of cookie until it sets. Do not let cool more than 2 minutes before placing kisses in center. Remove cookies to cooling rack.

Makes 48 cookies.

Shari Del Mariani’s Lemon Drop Cookies

- 2 cups all-purpose unbleached flour
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter
- 1 cup powdered sugar divided into 3/4 cup and 1/4 cup
- Grated peel of 1 large lemon
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Preheat oven to 300 degrees.

Combine flour and salt in medium bowl. Beat butter and 3/4 cup powdered sugar in bowl of stand mixer at medium speed until fluffy. Beat in lemon peel and juice until well blended. Add flour, 1/2 cup at a time, beating just until blended after each addition.

Shape dough by rounded teaspoonfuls into balls. Place 1 inch apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until cookies are lightly browned on bottom (they will not be browned on top). Cool on cookie sheet 5 minutes. Remove to

wire racks, cool completely. Sprinkle with remaining 1/4 cup powdered sugar.

Makes 60 cookies.

Shari Del Mariani’s Lemon Poppy Seed Biscotti

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup butter (unsalted), softened
- 3 medium eggs
- 2 tablespoon poppy seeds
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon extract
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
- 3 cups all-purpose (unbleached) flour
- 1 1/2 tablespoon baking powder
- Pinch of salt

In stand mixer bowl, cream sugar and butter. Add eggs, poppy seeds, lemon extract and lemon peel. In another bowl, mix flour, baking powder and salt. Add flour mixture to ingredients already mixed in stand mixer bowl and mix on medium speed until well mixed. Remove dough from bowl and work into round loaf and refrigerate covered for 1-2 hours.

Divide dough in half and roll each section into a tube about 9 to 10 inches long. Place on parchment lined or lightly sprayed cookie sheet. Flatten each tube into a log about 3 inches across.

Bake in preheated 375 degree oven for 20 minutes or until firm and lightly browned. Remove to cooling rack. Cool for 5 minutes. Cut logs on the diagonal into 3/4-inch slices (a finely serrated knife works best to prevent crumbling using a sawing stroke). Stand the slices back on the cookie sheet with enough space between each for air flow and bake for 10 minutes or until firm and lightly browned. Remove and cool on rack. In a sealed container, biscotti should last for 3 weeks.

Old-fashioned Christmas goodies

When Regina Palis comes home at Christmas to visit her family in Sodus, she and her mother, Virginia Palis, like to make Little Ears, a Lithuanian dessert that Virginia learned to make from her mother long ago. Like a cruller, it’s twisted piece of dough, fried and dipped into powdered sugar. Crullers date back to the time when the Pilgrims arrived, while Little Ears most likely reach further into history. Virginia Palis learned to make hers from watching her mother and writing down the instructions.



Jane Ammeson

Little Ears

- 1 pound flour
- 1/2 cup butter
- 6 egg yolks
- 2 whole eggs
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 ounce rum
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Vegetable oil for frying
- Powdered sugar

Blend yolks and 2 whole eggs with sugar until thick and lemon colored.

Sift flour into eggs, add sour cream, vanilla and rum. Mix well.

Beat dough with rolling pin, folding dough inward, until dough shows blisters. The more air incorporated into dough, the lighter the pastry.

Let dough rest in refrigerator for a couple of hours. Roll out dough very thin, cut into strips, 3 inches long and 1 1/2 inches wide. Then make a slit in center and pull one end through slit.

Heat oil in deep pot or deep fryer. To keep oil from foaming, add 2 pieces of a raw potato. When the dough is placed into hot oil and rises to surface fast, this means that oil is at right temperature. Fry until golden brown on both sides. Drain twigs on paper towels or brown paper and dust with powdered sugar while still hot.

Talking to Virginia and Regina about making Little Ears reminded me of the nut horns my Romanian Aunt Violet made each Christmas – she had learned to make them from her mother.

Romanian Nut Horns

For the cookie dough:

- 3 cups flour
 - 1 tablespoon sugar
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 1 pound butter
 - 1 pound Crisco
 - 2 egg yolks
 - 1 package dry yeast
 - 1 cup milk
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla
- For the nut filling:**
- 2 egg whites, beaten
 - 1 pound English walnuts chopped fine
 - 1/3 cup sugar
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift together flour, sugar and salt. Mix butter and Crisco together as you would for pie crust. In another bowl, whisk eggs, milk, yeast and vanilla. Add flour mixture, one cup at a time, to mixture. Mix until not sticky on hands. Cover dough and refrigerate overnight.

Next day, make nut filling mixture: Beat egg whites until stiff. Beat in vanilla and sugar and gradually fold in nuts.

Roll dough in powdered sugar to inch thick. Cut into 2 inch squares. Place nut filling in the center and pinch one pair of opposite corners together. Use egg whites to help pinch corners together.

Bake at 375 for 12 minutes. When cool, sprinkle with powdered sugar.

Jane Ammeson can be contacted via email at janeammeson@gmail.com or by writing to Focus Department, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

BREAKFASTS AND BANQUETS

Burger night: Van Buren Sportsmen’s Club, County Road 687, Hartford, will hold burger night from 5-8 p.m. today. Cost for burgers is \$3 and taco salads are \$5.75. Call 621-3994 after 2 p.m. for more information.

“Breakfast and Banquets” appears each Wednesday in the Focus Food Section.

The deadline is the preceding Wednesday at noon.

Civic groups sponsoring fund-raising meals, classes or other food related events should send information in writing to: Focus Department, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; or fax to 429-4398; or email, focus@heraldpalladium.com.

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'Tis the season to get real

'Tis the Season, and to that end I say Happy Holidays to all. For those of you that still have sugar plums dancing in your heads, this is not the article for you. Frankly, I think there are issues facing the country, region and locality that are serious enough to direct our attention and should engage us toward crafting a future of peace and stability for all. For example:

I was amazed to see yet another recall effort launched against the mayor of Benton Harbor. It's no wonder that it is tough to find good citizens willing to run for public office. It is a thankless job on so many levels. It's just my opinion mind you, but I think if you scratch just below the surface of these harassing recall efforts in Benton Harbor you would find an element of the Nation of Islam. I bet this same group has been launching these mayoral recall efforts in Benton Harbor from the very start. What is that famous definition of insanity – doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results?



Ed Emrich
Opinion Maker

Are these recall efforts directed at the mayor or simply a veiled power grab?

I wonder what the motivation is with the people who want to keep law enforcement's shooting range in Coloma Township closed. It was built to insure that local law enforcement has a place to practice their craft so they can maintain their firearm proficiency. I live fairly close to the area, and it's lightly populated – mostly landfill and farmland. It's just silly to build this facility and then not let them use it. As a Marine veteran I was trained to use firearms in the most deadly fashion, and I know that to be safe and accurate with firearms, you must employ good training with a foundation of self-discipline. The detractors on this issue are the classic, non-vet, affluent and misinformed few who think that by using this well-designed range, bullets will be flying far and wide, ricocheting off our morning coffee cups. I believe your efforts would be better served going after the stinking mountain of mess in your backyard. But I know it's hard to fill a cup that is already full.

As a species we humans are created to do things, and those who want to be completely emancipated from any work or

responsibility are on the wrong path toward happiness. Today it seems like there are two kinds of people – those who want to be left alone to become self-sufficient and create their destiny, and those who want to be taken care of. The path to true happiness is not in being taken care of, because as a result, there is no individual self-esteem created. There is only an infinite desire for more just to fill the emptiness within. Today's corporate tax structure cannot support the large number of long-term untrained, unmotivated citizens, and as a result the welfare fraud and government spending has spiraled out of control. We already have the highest corporate tax rate in the developed countries of the world. I say 39 percent corporate tax is enough already, and don't get me started on the national debt.

I have traveled outside of this great country, and when I compare our system to others several things become self evident. First, we have the best paying welfare system – bar none. Our safety net is so much higher than all other countries that without exception, people from other countries want come to the United States because even on welfare their situation would be much

improved. Second, our form of government is the best in the world. In our country power ebbs and flows without bloodshed. Granted, at times it's messy, but we are the model for the world. Third, as citizens of this great country we enjoy freedoms like no other. If we work at it everyone can pursue their passions, move about freely and follow their dreams. But, our system is under pressure from a vocal minority who bend to the direction of a few self-serving leaders. They listen to the urban legends of hate and burn and disrupt their own cities, and then blame others for their actions. I have to say that I would no sooner attack a police officer and go for his/her gun than jump over the moon, and to those folks who riot and demonstrate because the police took down a black citizen who resisted arrest I say that your actions are not supported by fact.

Let's get our facts straight and dispel the urban legends rampant on the Internet by those who foster hate and prejudice. We all have a lot to be thankful for this holiday season and yet there is a lot of work to do. Peace to you all.

Ed Emrich is a retired industrial arts teacher who operates a small area fruit farm.

Offensive license plate issue heads to Supreme Court

By JOHN M. CRISP
Tribune News Service (TNS)

As the American Civil War recedes steadily into the past, disputes over the display of the symbols of the Confederacy, especially on public property, persist. Such a battle is currently developing in Texas.

Texas permits individuals and organizations to purchase specialty automobile license plates. Members of the Texas chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans want to display a logo on their plates that includes the notorious Stars and Bars battle flag.

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles rejected the SCV's application. The group sued and a federal judge upheld the state's position. The SCV appealed, and the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in its favor, holding that the group's free speech rights had been violated.

Texas appealed the ruling, and earlier this month the Supreme Court agreed to hear the case in March.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, with more than 29,000 members nationally, was founded in 1896 to commemorate and celebrate the Confederacy. The Stars and Bars battle flag is by far the most prominent image on its website; it can be purchased on coffee mugs, T-shirts, and belt buckles. All things Southern and Confederate are available, including a Robert E. Lee doggie sweater.

But the site traffics in ideas, as well as flags and lapel pins. You can buy books such as "The Negro: The Southerner's Problem." You discover that Abraham Lincoln was actually a white supremacist. You learn that, really, in many respects blacks were actually better off before emancipation.

Most important, you learn that the "War of Northern Aggression" wasn't about slavery, at all, but a struggle to defend the rights of states and individuals.

Of course, the SCV has the right, as well as considerable freedom, to promulgate these misguided notions on its website and in books, papers and speeches. It can celebrate battle re-enactments and sell Confederate merchandise and adorn its members' cars and pickups with the battle flag and bumper stickers that read "The South Was Right."

But one wonders why it wishes to force an image of its battle flag into such a prominent, publicly sanctioned place as a license plate, where it might cause in-your-face offense to a black citizen who happens to be sitting behind an SCV member at a red light.

For that matter, some white Texans might cringe a little, too. My mother's direct line of descent includes Francis Marion Hayes, a Texas frontier lawyer and eventually a state legislator. On March 7, 1860, he wrote to his brother: "I have nothing of importance to write in the way of news. I attended another negro sale yesterday. Negroes did not sell so high as they did the first of January. I bought one little boy about 10 years old for \$1151.00, about as good a bargain as was sold on that day."

F.M. Hayes had no doubts about the purpose of the Civil War. A year later, on March 14, 1861, he wrote to his father: "The election for the ratification or rejection of the Secession ordinance passed off quietly; the people manifesting great determination, but little excitement. The county stood as follows, for Secession 1149. Against 50. I had hoped that Jack County did as well, but a report has reached here that it went against the ordinance. I hope you and all my connection went for secession; for in that you voted for protection to your property, and against free-n-----equality, in that you voted for equal rights in the Territories and maintenance of the institution of Slavery as it exists in the southern States: and against the enslaving of the white race."

My slaveholding, white supremacist antecedents are too removed by time to cause me embarrassment or guilt. But they do call into question whether I'm the best person to say whether or not blacks should be offended by the celebration of the Confederacy on a state-sanctioned license plate.

That judgment should probably fall to the descendants of the 10-year-old boy who was sold in March of 1860, but who, I hope, got his freedom a few years later, precisely because the Confederacy failed.

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, teaches in the English Department at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas.

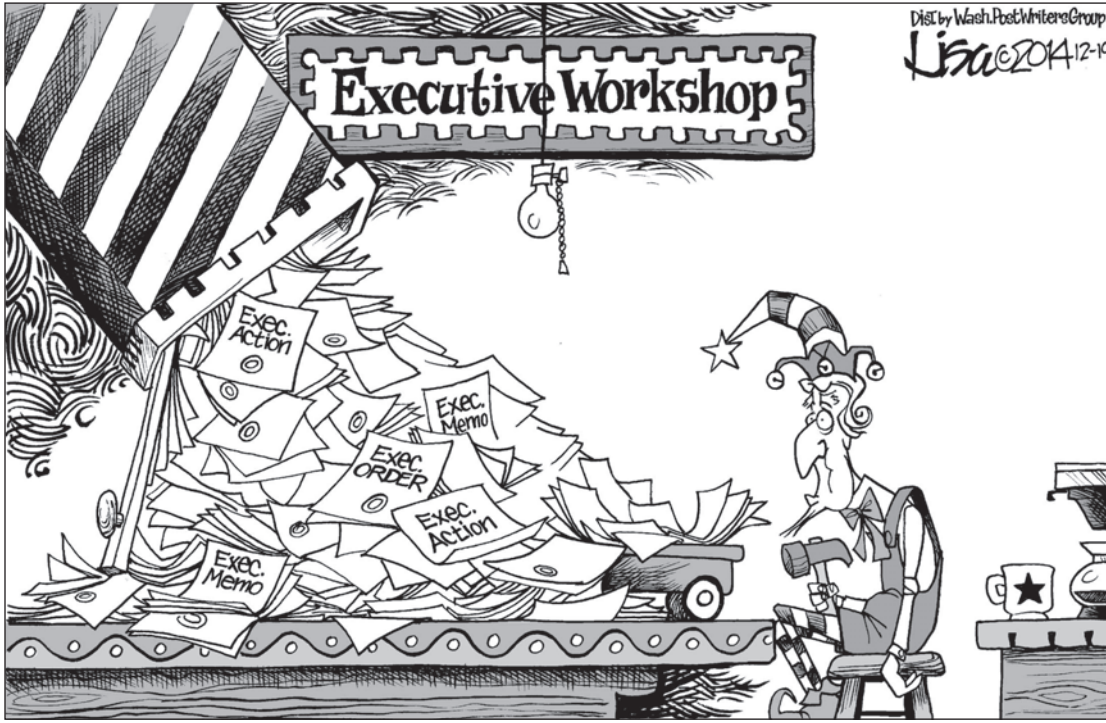
LETTERS

Remember, documentation is needed for military rites

Editor,
I am writing this letter with hopes of enlightening military veterans and their families if it is the veteran's wishes to have military rites conducted for them when they pass.

I was nominated and accepted the position of commander of the North Berrien Military Rites Team four years ago. The team has 35 members, and it is our privilege and honor to pay a last and final tribute of respect to one of our departed comrades. The military rites ceremony consists of a team that escorts the flag-draped casket or cremation urn to its final resting place. We then conduct a nondenominational service, which includes recognizing the service of our comrade in the form of time served, the branch of the service the veteran served in, and any medals and citations the veteran received. We then fold and encase the flag and present it to the next of kin. This is then followed by a 21-gun salute and the playing of "Taps."

Recently, we have had to refuse military rites because proof of honorable service could not be provided by the family of the deceased. We make every effort to avoid this situation, but when this information cannot be furnished, we must decline military rites. Funeral directors ask the next of kin for this information, as this is the only way the funeral home can acquire an American flag from the Post Office. It is because of this problem that I have been asked to address this



issue.

Proof of military service, since 1950, is in the form of the DD214. This is given to a veteran when he or she separates from military service, and on it, among other things, provides the type of discharge the veteran was given. Prior to 1950, separation papers were issued and they, in essence, did the same thing. The veteran should have taken this form to the county office and had a copy placed on file.

Therefore, a veteran should always know the whereabouts of this important document, and should always ensure that surviving family members know the whereabouts of this information. A copy can be obtained, but usually requires several days

and proper identification before it is released. It has been my experience that when surviving family members are asked for proof of honorable service (DD214 or equivalent), they usually don't have any idea what this is or where to find it. If a funeral is preplanned, a copy of this information can be given to the funeral home and kept on file there.

Therefore, veterans and family members, please take the time to locate this information so that it is available when needed. When military rites are requested, and proof of honorable service is provided, it is our honor to provide this service.

Phil Manni
Commander, North Berrien
Military Rites Team

Write us

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All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. The Herald-Palladium reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, grammar, inappropriate content and libel. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Immigration order has a considerable upside

By BENJAMIN W. POWELL
Tribune News Service (TNS)

President Barack Obama's recent executive order on immigration has caused a political uproar. Congressional Republicans have introduced legislation to kill the order, 24 states are challenging it in federal court, and a federal district court judge in Pennsylvania has suggested the executive order may be unconstitutional.

While this blowback indicates how emotionally charged immigration issues have become, in truth the executive order changes very little, for good or ill.

The most substantial changes involve the existing Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which the president would expand, and a new program called Deferred Action for Parental Accountability.

DACA defers deportation hearings for immigrants brought here as children and temporarily authorizes them to work here legally. So far, about 500,000 young adults have taken advantage of the program. The executive order expands who is eligible to apply and increases the employment

authorization from two years to three years. DAPA creates the same deportation deferment and employment authorization for illegal immigrant parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents.

Congressional Republicans claim that the president is failing to enforce immigration law as written, in violation of his constitutional duty. Judge Arthur Schwab of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, in a Dec. 16 ruling in a deportation hearing, seems to agree, saying that "President Obama's unilateral legislative action violates the separation of powers provided for in the United States Constitution as well as the Take Care Clause and is therefore unconstitutional."

However, more than 11 million illegal immigrants reside in the United States. No one expected that Obama, or anyone else, had the will or ability to deport all of them over the next few years. So some form of selectivity regarding who is processed for deportation, even if random, was inevitable. The executive order does not change that. All it does is make explicit who will be targeted

for deportation and who won't.

Targeted are those immigrants suspected of terrorist ties and those who have committed serious crimes in the United States. Not targeted are the 3.7 million to 5 million who might qualify for DACA or DAPA. The work authorization simply allows these people, who are going to be here anyway, to come out of the shadows and work legally.

Although the executive order does not change the total number of undocumented immigrants in our country, it does create some modest benefits. The most obvious is the temporary security it provides to those immigrants who qualify.

But native-born Americans will benefit as well. Allowing illegal immigrants to work openly and legally allows them to use their skills in the jobs and industries where they can contribute the most value, rather than working off the books in occupations where black market employment is harder to detect. This alone, the Fiscal Policy Institute estimates, should boost the wages of those immigrants who qualify to work legally by 5 percent to 10 percent, which indicates that they are cre-

ating more valuable goods and services for the rest of us.

Some worry that immigrants are a tax burden. But in this case the immigrants are already here. Granting them legal working status would increase tax revenue by growing the economy and by bringing their work into the open where it can be taxed. As a result, tax revenues should increase by some \$2.6 billion during the first two years the new rules are in force, the University of California, Los Angeles' North American Integration and Development Center estimates. The executive order mostly codifies what was true before it was issued: not all illegal immigrants are going to be deported anytime soon.

The modest benefits that stem from the order are simply a result of identifying which illegal immigrants are not going to be deported and allowing them to work.

Rather than staging political theater over the executive order, Congress would better serve our country by passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill that makes executive orders like this unnecessary.

Benjamin W. Powell is a senior fellow with The Independent Institute of Oakland, Calif.

OBITUARIES

Erick Olofsson

Erick George Olofsson, 77, of St. Joseph passed away Dec. 3, 2014, at Hanson Hospice Center in Stevensville.

A celebration of life service will be at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, 2014, at Road to Life Church, 3800 Niles Road, St. Joseph, with Pastor Mike Schoepfle officiating. Friends may visit with the family before the service from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Road to Life Church (www.roadtolifechurch.com) or Salvation Army in Benton Harbor (www.sabentonharbor.org). Those wishing to share a memory of Erick may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Erick was born March 1, 1937, in Mendota, Ill., to Andreas Gustav Olofsson and Elsie Linnea (Tarnroos) Olofsson. He married Miriam Annabelle (Poly) Olofsson, on Jan. 16, 1960, in Chicago. Erick had a long career as a traffic manager for International Harvester/Navistar for more than 30 years, and also worked at Vanguard and Acme Steel. He served in the Illinois National Guard and was an active member of Road to Life Church, Ben Jo Investment Club and Wednesday Morning Men's Ministry. He also served as president of Rosemary Beach Association. In addition to being an avid genealogist, he employed his carpentry skills to build two homes for his family. Most of all, he enjoyed using his sense of humor to make people laugh.

Erick is survived by his loving wife, Miriam; son, Scott Andrew (Maureen) Olofsson of Glen Ellyn, Ill.; granddaughters, Linnea Miriam and Melissa Mae Olofsson, both of Illinois; brother, Harold (Sheila) Olofsson of Chicago; sister, Mary Ann Olofsson of California; and many nieces and nephews. Erick was preceded in death by his daughter, Diana Miriam Olofsson; brother, Joel Olofsson; sisters: Marguerite Shaffrick, Ruth Kuchis, Esther Reed and Doris Lindberg; and his parents.

Dorothy Drumm

Dorothy T. Drumm, 86, of St. Joseph passed away Monday, Dec. 22, 2014, at The Whitcomb in St. Joseph.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, 2014, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 211 Church St., St. Joseph. Friends may visit from 5-8 p.m. Friday at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph, with a prayer service recited at 7:30 p.m. Burial in Hickory Bluff Cemetery will take place at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice at Home. Those wishing to sign Dorothy's guest book may do so online at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Dorothy was born Dec. 17, 1928, in Chicago to Pearce "P.J." and Molly (Clancy) Ryan. She was a graduate of Loretta High School. On April 3, 1948, she wed Peter Drumm Jr. in Chicago. Dorothy kept a busy schedule caring for their home and five children. She was a member of Coloma Lioness, Paw Paw Lake Yacht Club and St. Joseph Elks.

She is survived by her children: Pete (Fran) Drumm of Mifflinville, Pa.; Debbie (Jeff) Alberts of New Lenox, Ill.; Bobbi (Dale) Post of Dowagiac; and Dottie (Randy) Forrester of St. Joseph; grandchildren: Tony Pagliuco, Mike Alberts, Lowell An-

drew (Tracy) Harris Jr., Jennifer (Dustin) Wagner, Michelle (Dave) Simmons, Brian Post, Chris Forrester, Nick Forrester and Cody Forrester; and great-grandchildren: Charlotte Harris, Matthew Simmons, Julia Simmons, Donovan Alberts, Morgan Alberts, Nathan Wagner and Michael Wagner.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband, Peter, on Sept. 24, 2012; daughter, Pat Pagliuco, on Jan. 10, 2014; great-grandson, Ethan Wagner; and siblings, Mary Haggerty and Jack Ryan.

Bernice Urban

Bernice Urban, 70, of Benton Harbor passed away Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, surrounded by family at her home after a short illness.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29, at Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Services, 1053 E. Napier Ave., Benton Harbor. Visitation will be at the funeral home from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Burial will take place at North Shore Memory Gardens immediately after the services. Pastor Scott Stambaugh will be officiating.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Please share memories, messages or photos at www.florin.net.

Bernice was born Aug. 21, 1944, in Benton Harbor to Charles and Stella Hosmer. She was a customer service representative at Meijer for 13 years. She was a homemaker and loved doing crafts with her family, she traveled, was a bird-watcher and was always smiling with a great gift of gab for all. Bernice spent her entire life in this community.

She is survived by four daughters: Kathy (Patrick) Eichel of Watervliet; Cheryl (Adam) Niepomnik of Wauconda, Ill.; Debra (Brian) Smikle of Dowagiac; and Mary (Jim) Delaney of South Bend; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John; her parents; and seven brothers and sisters: Roland Hosmer, Claude Hosmer, Harry Hosmer, Harriet DeRoo, Wanita Smith, Ruth Shaw and Helen Nearn.

Donald P. LaVanway Sr.

Donald P. LaVanway Sr. 65, of Benton Harbor died at his home Friday, Dec. 19, 2014, after an illness of many years.

Services celebrating his life will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 26, at Riverside United Methodist Church, 4401 Fikes Road, Riverside. Cremation will follow with a private burial at a later date. Pastor Bobby Helms of Calvary Pentecostal Church in Hartford will be officiating. Visitation will be from 10-11 a.m. Friday at the church before the service. Arrangements are by Davidson Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Coloma. Memorials may be made to the family, Muscular Dystrophy Association or Saret Nature Center. Please share memories, messages or photos at www.florin.net.

Don was born in Benton Harbor on Dec. 29, 1948, to Forest and Pauline (Couch) LaVanway. He had worked for many years at the Holiday Inn in Niles and Benton Harbor, and in the Otho (Iowa) Fire Department for four years. He was a member of Riverside United Methodist Church, Benton Harbor Moose Club and Berrien County Woodworkers Guild. Don enjoyed woodworking as a hobby. He also was an active bowler and a member of AA for more than 20 years.

Don is survived by his wife, Riza; two sons: Lance (Jill) LaVanway of Springfield, Mo., and Joseph (Teri)

Paterson of Socorro, N.M.; his brother and sisters: Allen LaVanway of Watervliet, Joan Berndt of St. Joseph and Kay Burchett of Greenwood, Ark.; 23 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; seven stepchildren: Jennifer Parent of Hartford; Bethann Parent of Stevensville; Richard Parent of Benton Harbor; Missy Smith of Watervliet; Rex Caruthers of North Manchester, Ind.; and Verrell Caruthers of Hagar Shores; and a daughter-in-law, Corrine Whitehall of Grant, N.M.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Anthony "Tony" LaVanway and Donald Paul LaVanway Jr.; and his brother, Dennis LaVanway.

Laura Willett

Laura Annette Willett, 87, of South Haven passed away Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2014, at Countryside Nursing Home in South Haven. She was born Dec. 12, 1927, in South Haven to Lewis and Edith (Wheeler) Mitchell. She graduated from South Haven High School in 1945. Laura married Charles Willett on Oct. 26, 1945, at First Assembly of God in South Haven. Laura was an active member of Anchor Baptist Church in South Haven. She enjoyed writing stories and poems. She also enjoyed crossword puzzles.

Laura was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and her brother, Terry Mitchell.

She is survived by her children: Darlene Wickham of Orange Park, Fla.; Elaine (Bob) Bochniak of Orange Park, Fla.; James (Anne) Willett of Bangor; Ralph (Sherri) Willett of South Haven; and Jerry Willett of Fennville; 16 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and siblings: Lewis Mitchell of South Haven, Georgia Nagel of Indianapolis and Ronald (Joyce) Mitchell of Mulberry, Fla.

Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, 2014, at Filbrandt Family Funeral Home in South Haven. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, 2014, at Anchor Baptist Church in South Haven, with Pastor Theron Crawford officiating. Laura will be laid to rest next to her husband in North Shore Memory Gardens in Hagar Shores. Contributions may be made in Laura's memory to Anchor Baptist Church, 71925 M-43, South Haven, MI 49090. Kindly share your thoughts and memories on the family's online guest book at www.FilbrandtFFH.com.

David Bowman

David Frank Bowman, 73, of Benton Harbor departed this life Dec. 17, 2014, at home. A service celebrating his life will be Friday, Dec. 26, at Family Funeral Home. Visitation begins at 10 a.m., followed by the funeral at 11 a.m.

David was born Dec. 15, 1941, in St. Louis, Mo., to the union of Benny and Christina Griggs. He worked at Briarwood Apartments until he retired in 2006. David loved to joke around and play with his many nieces and nephews. He accepted Christ as his savior, under the leadership of the late Pastor Rivers Malone at Golden Light M.B.C.

David is survived by his loving companion of 35 years, Rose White; daughters: Cynthia (Marshall) Carr, Daveen Griggs and Erica (Ellery) Rayford; sons, David (Tina) Griggs and David (Latissa) Fowler; seven grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and a host of

brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

David was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Marcella Burney and Gwen Zimmerman; and granddaughter, Kenya Johnson.

Patrick Richard Ashley

Patrick Richard Ashley, 43, of Stevensville passed away Sunday, Dec. 21, 2014, at Lakeland Regional Medical Center in St. Joseph.

A celebration of life service will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, 2014, at Saron Lutheran Church, 510 Main St., St. Joseph, with the Rev. Joan Oleson officiating. Burial will be in Crystal Springs Cemetery after the service. Friends may visit with the family from 1-4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, 2014, at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Pat Ashley Memorial Fund. Those wishing to share a memory of Patrick online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Patrick was born Jan. 29, 1971, in Lansing, Mich., to Jeffery Ashley and Lyn (Smith) Earwood. He graduated from Alpena High School and continued his education by earning his bachelor's degree from Olivet College, where he was a member of Phi Alpha Pi fraternity. Patrick married the love of his life, Cami Hettig, on June 17, 1995, in Benton Harbor, and together they had three handsome boys: Connor, Colin and Aiden. Patrick worked at Whirlpool Corp. as a support business coach, but what he was known for the most was his passion for coaching football. Coaching was his life. He coached everything from rocket football to JV football at Lakeshore High School. Patrick was always in great physical condition. If he wasn't out on the field coaching his teams, you could find him in the gym working out. He enjoyed nature and was an avid student of history.

Patrick is survived by his wife, Cami; children: Connor, Colin and Aiden; parents, Jeffery Ashley and Lyn (Smith) Earwood; brother, Ian (Brenda) Ashley; father- and mother-in-law, Mike and Sandi Hettig; uncle, Richard (Sharon) Smith; aunt, Nancy (Dan) Dennis; and many friends, proud football players and the entire Lancer Nation.

Rachel Arnt

Rachel Lynn (Snodgrass) Arnt, 32, of Eau Claire went to be with the Lord on Friday, Dec. 19, 2014.

Rachel was born July 12, 1982, in St. Joseph, the daughter of Larry and Deborah Snodgrass.

On July 25, 2009, Rachel and Christopher Arnt were united in marriage. He survives along with their son, Maverick. She is also survived by her parents; a sister, Leslie (Henry) Burrows of Watervliet; her grandmother, Florence "Joann" Kimp of Hartford; a nephew, Trent of Watervliet; her father- and mother-in-law, Greg and Tammy Arnt of Eau Claire; a sister-in-law, Courtney Arnt of Rochester Hills, Mich.; her grandmothers-in-law, Betsy Arnt of Eau Claire and Nancy Elliot of Sodus; special friends, Corrina Sheridan of Watervliet and Tracy McClure of Parrish, Fla.; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, other family members and friends.

Rachel was preceded in passing by her grandparents, Gene and Bonnie Snodgrass; her grandfather, Richard Kimp; and her grandfathers-in-law, Clif-

ford Arnt and Homer Elliot.

Rachel was one who made friends easily and once a friend, you were a friend for life. She was a very giving person who would give anything and everything she had to help someone in need.

As per her wishes, cremation has taken place. A celebration of Rachel's life will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, 2015, at the Bright Star Tabernacle Church, located at 5130 Old Pipestone Road, Eau Claire. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to Christopher Arnt for a scholarship fund to be started for their son, Maverick. The family has entrusted the Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, with arrangements. Those wishing to leave condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

Elizabeth Lieberman

Elizabeth "Bette" Lieberman, 67, of Sterling Heights, Mich., passed away Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2014, at West Woods of Bridgman.

Graveside services will be at 11:30 a.m. Friday at North Shore Memory Gardens with Sondra Levin officiating. Memorial donations may be made to the Kalamazoo Ringers, 29462 Heritage Lane, Paw Paw, MI 49079 (www.kalamazooringers.org). Those wishing to sign Bette's memory book online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Bette was born Aug. 2, 1947, in Benton Harbor to John and Anne (Borysko) Bergstedt. She graduated from Coloma High School class of 1965 and attended Lake Michigan College. Bette was employed at Whirlpool Corp. as a lab technician. She enjoyed cooking and baking from scratch, reading and needlepoint.

Bette is survived by her children: Abby Lieberman of Sterling Heights, Steven Lieberman of Kalamazoo and Jennifer Lieberman of St. Joseph; and her sister, Nancy (Glen) Bradham of Baroda. She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Anne Bergstedt; and her brother, John Bergstedt, Jr.

Rev. Walter Brown

The Rev. Walter Lee Brown went home with the Lord on Dec. 16, 2014. He was born June 7, 1937, to union of Steve Brown and Rosie Lee Windmon in Osceola, Ark. On March 14, 1964, he was united in holy matrimony to Bernice Higgs.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Conroe Theological Seminary. He became a million-dollar insurance man for Metropolitan Insurance Agency. He spent many years in the circulation department at The Herald-Palladium. In 1969, he answered the call to preach the Gospel. The third Sunday in January 1975, he organized Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, where he served until 2012.

Rev. Walter Brown was a community activist and was involved in organizing marches and protests; a BHAS board member for 12 years; instrumental in the formation of Benton Harbor Charter School; president and founder of the Benton Harbor Chapter of PUSH; chairman for Michigan Organizing Project (MOP) for local residents looking for quality employment; and founder of MEN Development Inc., a group of preachers organized to eradicate dilapidated housing in the city; and more. In September 2012, Pastor Brown decided it was time to retire and spend time with his family. After more than 50 years in Benton Harbor, he moved to Indianapolis to be with his daughters.

He leaves precious memories in the hearts of his wife, Bernice; daughter, Angela Brown-Adams

Death notices

Connie E. Beathia, 92, of Benton Harbor died Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2014, at Pine Ridge Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Stevensville. Family Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 925-9761.

Virginia Edwards, 89, of Benton Harbor died Saturday, Dec. 20, 2014, at New Orchard Grove Extended Care Center in Benton Harbor. Family Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 925-9761.

Elizabeth "Bette" Lieberman, 67, of Sterling Heights, Mich., died Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2014, at West Wood of Bridgman. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Donald Albert Nye, 78, of Fennville and Fort Meade, Fla., died Saturday, Dec. 20, 2014, at his home in Fort Meade. Chappell Funeral Home, Fennville, 561-4601.

Merisa A. Watkins, 47, of Benton Harbor died Saturday, Dec. 20, 2014, at Lakeland Regional Medical Center in St. Joseph. Family Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 925-9761.

Laura Annette Willett, 87, of South Haven died Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2014, at Countryside Nursing Home in South Haven. Filbrandt Family Funeral Home, South Haven, 637-0333.

Daniel Winger, 74, of St. Joseph died Monday, Dec. 22, 2014, at home. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

(Willis) and Donata Brown (Corey Banks); one son, Jerome (Venita) Martin; seven grandchildren: Joyce, Jelissa, Lance, Seth, Essence, Tecarra and Seanna; a great-grandchild, Kindle Lee Wright; sister, Fannie Mae Johnson; sister-in-law, Emma Lee Bell-Kelley; and in-laws: Grace (Charles) Hornbeak, Laconia (Linnie) Higgs Jr., James (Shirley) Higgs, Ima (Paul) Moss, Donald Ray Higgs, Paul (Dale) Higgs, Judy Higgs, Robert Higgs and Ruth Stephens.

Until the end, he was singing and preaching and praising the Lord for his blessings – a life well loved is a life well lived.

Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, and 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the church. Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Robert E. Turbeville

Robert E. Turbeville, 60, of Laurel, Miss., passed away Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2014, in Galien.

Robert was born Dec. 11, 1954, to Henry and Lois Turbeville in Jackson, Miss. On July 11, 1975, he married Cindy Spencer. He was preceded in death by his father, mother and three nephews: Mark Anthony, James Edward and Kyle Ray.

He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Cindy; daughters, Melissa (Brian) West and Telissa (Bruce) Greer; brother, David Turbeville; sisters: Marie (Terry) Eastman, Belinda Atwood, Debrah Alcalá, Ann (Dan) Bennett, Cathy (Marc) McMillon, Felicia (Kenny) Tyler and Kay Turbeville; five grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. Arrangements have been entrusted to Hoven Funeral Home, Buchanan. Online condolences may be made at www.hovenfunerals.com.

Getting it straight

The Herald-Palladium makes every effort to ensure accuracy in its stories.

If you think there is an error, please contact the editor of the page on which it occurred. If you are unsure of whom to contact, call Assistant Local News Editor Jim Dalglish at 429-1293.

Do you remember?

25 years ago – 1989

Auto Specialties Manufacturing Co. and an Ohio company have reached a definitive agreement for the sale of Ausco’s operating assets for an estimated \$14 million, officials announced Friday. Ausco President Dave Stuebe said money from the sale to The Brenlin Group of Akron will be used to pay off the Benton Township company’s creditors under Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection rules.

35 years ago – 1979

The Toney family will long remember 1979 as the year of the child. Four brothers, who grew up in a large family in the Ber-

rien Springs area, and their wives all had babies this year. They are Greg and his wife, Cindy, who had a son born Feb. 24; Larry and his wife, Carol, who had a daughter born May 10; Warren and his wife, Sheri, who had a daughter born July 20; and George and his wife, Judy, who had a son born Sept. 24. The Toney brothers are the sons of Warren and the late Ruth Toney. Greg and George are twins, while Larry is one of trip-

50 years ago – 1964

Montgomery Ward and Co. today opened a catalogue store at 203 State St. next to the former Wards store that closed Thursday.

Today in history

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 24, the 358th day of 2014. There are seven days left in the year. This is Christmas Eve.

Highlights in History:

On Dec. 24, 1914, during World War I, impromptu Christmas truces began to take hold along parts of the Western Front between British and German soldiers who, in some cases, exchanged gifts and even played soccer with each other. Conservationist John Muir, founder of the Sierra Club, died in Los Angeles at age 76.

On this date:

In 1524, Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama – who had discovered a sea route around Africa to India – died in Cochin, India. In 1851, fire devastated the Li-

brary of Congress in Washington, D.C., destroying about 35,000 volumes.

In 1939, Pope Pius XII delivered a Christmas Eve address in which he offered a five-point program for peace and denounced “premeditated aggressions.”

In 1951, Gian Carlo Menotti’s “Amahl and the Night Visitors,” the first opera written specifically for television, was first broadcast by NBC-TV.

In 1974, Cyclone Tracy began battering the Australian city of Darwin, resulting in widespread damage and causing some 65 deaths.

In 1994, militants hijacked an Air France Airbus A-300 at the Algiers airport; three passengers were slain during the siege before all four hijackers were killed by French commandos in Marseille two days later.

CANINE

From page A1

whether or not they would be able to do it is letting them go,” she said. “We get a manual. We have classes that we go to. We’re kind of guided as to how to do it. It’s that letting go that you can’t really train anybody how to do.”

She said there are always plenty of tissues at the graduation ceremonies, which are open to the public and many puppy trainers attend.

“They have a ceremony. We get to meet the person that the dog is going to,” she said. “And a lot of times, there’s an opportunity to keep in contact if they want to.”

Stories she hears about her dogs making a difference make it all worth it.

One of her dogs, Ansley, was paired with a therapist at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, in 2006.

During his first week on the job, she said Ansley spent time with a high school student who had received a severe head injury while playing football.

“He was extremely agitated and refused to eat,” Appelman said. “Ansley went in and laid in the bed next to him. After about an hour, he ate willingly for the first time ... No one else could comfort this boy.”

She said Ansley not only soothes patients but gets them to move during their physical therapy.



Louise Wrege / HP staff

Dee Appelman of Stevensville sits Tuesday with Hendrix III, the 13th dog she has trained for Canine Companions for Independence. With them is Cooper, a three-legged dog Appelman saved from a kill shelter. Hendrix will be returned to Canine Companions in February to be professionally trained.

“He makes it fun to do things that typically aren’t fun in physical therapy.”

Ansley is her only dog at a facility. The rest went to a people with disabilities.

Appelman is not paid for her work.

“I actually pay to do it because all expenses are out of my pocket,” she said. “Medical, food, anything like that comes out of pocket.”

She even has to pay for spaying or neutering.

“By doing that, the dogs go completely free to the people who receive them,” she said. “By having the

volunteers taking on some of the expenses, it allows them to continue to not charge to get the dogs.”

In addition to paying for each puppy’s needs, Appelman donates 10 percent of her sales from Dee’s Specialty Cakes to Canine Companions.

Appelman teaches the puppies about 25 of the 50 to 60 commands they need to know to graduate.

Some of the commands, like how to “shake hands,” may look like tricks, but they aren’t.

“They become more advanced commands for push-

ing things closed or operating light switches,” she said.

The dogs are placed with people who have a wide range of disabilities, except blindness.

“Physical disabilities, developmental disabilities, the common ones are cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis. They work with autism, amputations, we’ve got a wounded warrior initiative right now for veterans coming back with PTSD and other physical disabilities as a result of the war.”

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

SONY

From page A1

Sony Entertainment CEO Michael Lynton said that Seth Rogen’s North Korea farce “will be in a number of theaters” beginning Thursday. He said Sony also is continuing its efforts to release the film on more platforms and in more theaters.

“We have never given up on releasing ‘The Interview,’” Lynton said in a statement Tuesday. “While we hope this is only the first step of the film’s release, we are proud to make it available to the public and to have stood up to those who attempted to suppress free speech.”

For Sony, the decision was the culmination of a gradual about-face: After initially saying it had no plans to release the movie,

the company began softening its position after it was broadly criticized.

Celebration Cinema, which has a theater complex in Benton Township, has not decided if it will show the film.

“We are evaluating our options with Sony about the time and locations of a possible release, but no decisions have been made,” Celebration spokesperson Steve VanWagoner stated in an email.

Moviegoers celebrated the abrupt change in fortune for a film that appeared doomed as “The Interview” began popping up in the listings of independent theaters across the country Tuesday, from Atlanta to Los Angeles. The film is set to open in over 200 theaters on Thursday, the day it was originally set for wide release.

Sony officials aren’t com-

menting on whether the film will also be released to video on demand – another possibility. Starz, which has first pay TV and streaming rights to Sony releases, didn’t respond to requests for comment. Streaming service Netflix declined comment, while YouTube didn’t respond to requests.

One of the loudest critics of the film’s shelving, President Barack Obama, hailed Sony’s reversal.

“The president applauds Sony’s decision to authorize screenings of the film,” said Obama spokesman Eric Schultz. “As the president made clear, we are a country that believes in free speech, and the right of artistic expression. The decision made by Sony and participating theaters allows people to make their own choices about the film, and we welcome that outcome.”

White House officials declined to elaborate on what role, if any, the White House played in Sony’s decision to reverse itself, but pointed out that Obama had stated publicly that he believed Sony’s earlier decision to cancel the release was a mistake.

Rogen, who stars in the film he co-directed with Evan Goldberg, made his first public comments in a surreal ordeal that began with hackers leaking Sony executives’ emails and culminated in an ongoing confrontation between the U.S. and North Korea. The FBI has said North Korea was behind the hacking attacks. “The people have spoken! Freedom has prevailed! Sony didn’t give up!” said Rogen on Twitter.

“VICTORY!!!!!!!” said James Franco, who co-stars in the film. “The PEOPLE

and THE PRESIDENT have spoken.”

North Korea’s Internet was shut down in an apparent attack Monday, and continued to be roiled by intermittent outages Tuesday. That followed President Barack Obama’s vow of a response to what he called North Korea’s “cyber vandalism” of Sony. The White House and State Department have declined to say whether the U.S. government was responsible for North Korea’s outages.

After hackers last Wednesday threatened terrorist attacks against theaters showing the film, the nation’s major multiplex chains dropped “The Interview.” Sony soon thereafter canceled the film’s release altogether and removed mention of it from its websites.

But that decision drew

eventually attract businesses to the area, but the neighboring properties turned out to be industrial brownfields unsuitable for manufacturing sites.

Instead, The Golf Club at Harbor Shores was built nearby.

After missing out on the purchase, Todd Gustafson, executive director of Kinexus, stated: “Whirlpool’s continued investment in Benton Harbor and LMC’s ability to expand its training programs are fantastic developments for the region.”

The announcement of the sale comes less than a week after Whirlpool opened its 150,000 square-foot, \$18.6 million Benton Harbor Technology Center on Riverview Drive. The center is located in a former Whirlpool industrial plant.

With more than 4,000 employees in and around the Twin Cities, including 1,200 engineers, Whirlpool can always use more space, Noel said.

With its reinforced concrete floors and high ceilings designed for industrial use, M-TEC provides a lot of flexibility for product testing and design, Noel added.

“We believe in giving people the best environment possible for them to do their best work and create the best products,” Noel said.

Contact: jmatuszak@theHP.com, 932-0360, Twitter: @HPMatuszak

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Rain/Snow 41°	Snow Likely 33°	Mostly Cloudy 36° / 33°	Partly Cloudy 43° / 37°	Rain/Snow 39° / 26°	Mostly Cloudy 31° / 25°

Local Outlook

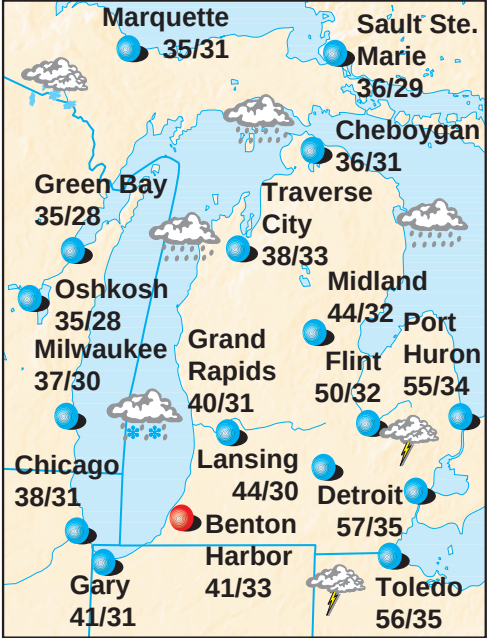
Today we will see cloudy skies with a 90% chance of rain and snow, high temperature of 41°, humidity of 76%, Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph. Little or no snow accumulation expected. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 90% chance of snow.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise 8:12 a.m.
Sunset 5:19 p.m.
Moonrise 10:00 a.m.
Moonset 8:46 p.m.

12/28 1/4 1/13 1/20

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor yesterday
Temperature
High 51°
Low 40°
Normal High 33°
Normal Low 21°
Record High 57° in 1982
Record Low -15° in 1989
Precipitation
Yesterday 0.07"
Month to date 0.72"
Normal month to date 2.07"
Year to date 25.83"
Normal year to date 36.40"

Air Quality

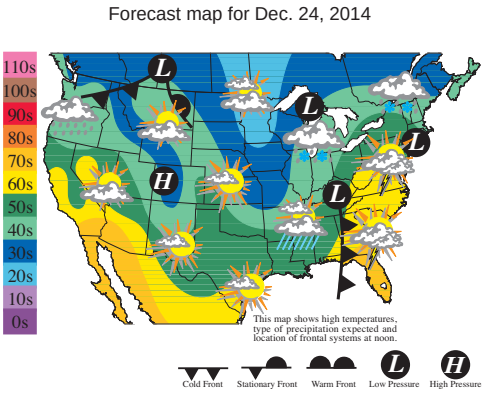
Yesterday 44
Main Offender Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.
0-50 Good
51-100 Moderate
101-150 Sensitive
151-200 Unhealthy

Weather Trivia

Did the Greeks and Romans often erect temples where lightning struck?
Answer: Yes, they worshipped the gods there in an attempt to appease them.

National Weather Map



Lake Michigan

Today, north winds 10 to 20 kt increasing to gales to 35 kt in the afternoon. Snow and slight chance of rain in the afternoon. Waves building to 5 to 8 ft occasionally to 10 ft in the afternoon.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today we will see cloudy skies with scattered snow, highs in the mid-30s. North wind 10 to 15 mph. Thursday, skies will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated snow, highs in the mid-30s.

Lower Peninsula

Expect cloudy skies today with scattered rain and snow, highs in the mid-40s. Northeast wind 5 to 14 mph. Skies will be partly cloudy to cloudy Thursday with scattered snow, highs in the mid-30s.

hpSPORTS

Rose, Bulls
beat Wizards
Page B2



Pistons
made
right call
to dump
Smith

The Detroit Pistons, who have been trying very hard to win basketball games this season, are 5-23.



The Philadelphia 76ers, who are making less of an effort to win basketball games than any team in NBA history, are 3-23.

It was time for a change in Detroit. The Pistons waived forward Josh Smith on Monday, a move that inevitably needed to happen at some point.

There's plenty of blame to go around as to how Detroit became an unwilling contender to the very-willing 76ers in the race to bottom of the NBA, but the Pistons' front office at least deserves a little credit for not waiting any longer to start blowing things up.

Smith was unlikely to ever justify the 4-year, \$54 million contract the Pistons gave him in the summer of 2013, but it was also hard to imagine he'd ever become such a liability.

Coach Stan Van Gundy said the Pistons won't be better off simply by subtracting Smith, but numbers suggest otherwise.

According to basketball-reference.com, the Pistons are 12.3 points better per 100 possessions when Smith is off the floor than when he's on it.

Smith wasn't a good shooter prior to his arrival in Detroit, but he's somehow managed to get worse, shooting .391 from the field and .468 from the foul line this season.

Those percentages fit poorly on any team, but they're especially bad on a team whose only real assets are post players Andre Drummond and Greg Monroe. The Pistons need to create some space for the big guys with outside shooters, and that's obviously not Smith's forte.

Unfortunately the Pistons don't get to tear up Smith's contract and throw it away. They'll still be paying Smith, although the NBA's "stretch provision" allows them to spread the money out over the next five seasons.

Paying a guy to play for someone else for the next five years is hardly an ideal situation, but it's an improvement over the alternatives. Keeping Smith around wasn't going to work, and trying to trade him only brought offers of other bad contracts.

The Pistons can now get to work on what should've been the plan all along — building for the future around the 21-year-old Drummond, a potentially dominant center.

Owner Tom Gores has been insistent that the Pistons win as soon as possible, and that attitude likely led to the rash decision to sign Smith in the first place.

But perhaps this move is a sign Gores has come

See SANDERS, page B3



AP file photo

In this Nov. 5, 1995 file photo, Atlanta's Jessie Tuggle, right, brings down Detroit's Barry Sanders during a game in Atlanta.

What's a tackle?

In offense-ruled NFL,
the notion of tackling
becomes lost

By PAUL NEWBERRY
AP National Writer

ATLANTA — Jessie Tuggle knows a thing or two about tackling. They didn't call him the "Hammer" for nothing.

When the retired linebacker gets together with other former players, one subject inevitably comes up.

These guys today just don't tackle like we used to.

"A kid has played in high school and played in college, so you assume when he gets to the NFL ... that he knows how to tackle," said Tuggle, who was credited with more than 2,000 stops during his 14-year career

with the Atlanta Falcons. "That assumption is not right."

It's not really surprising, either. In football, one of the essential elements of the game — tackling — just doesn't get a whole lot of practice time anymore. It's like a baseball infielder who doesn't take grounders before a game, or a hockey goalie who never faces 100 mph shots until it counts.

"We don't tackle live, not in practice," said Bob Sutton, defensive coordinator for the Kansas City Chiefs. "I don't think anybody in the league does."

The reasons for that are understandable. Tougher restrictions on full-contact drills have taken hold at all levels of football, mostly spurred by a heightened awareness of the devastating long-term damage that concussions can cause.

From high schools to colleges to the pros, the impact of that change is

noticeable to everyone — especially those who are trying to avoid getting tackled.

"It's a lost art," said Falcons running back Steven Jackson, who had rushed for more than 11,000 yards in the NFL.

For pro teams, where the top players are making millions of dollars and rosters are limited to 53 players plus a small practice squad, one of the primary goals during the week is just making sure everybody is healthy for the game. Hitting in practice is simply not feasible, especially at this time of year when most teams are all beat up.

"Probably the most challenging thing is having your guys prepared and ready to tackle," Atlanta coach Mike Smith said, "because you don't have the opportunity to practice in pads."

See TACKLE, page B3

Raiola
loses
appeal

Lions center will
miss Sunday game
with Packers

By DAVE BIRKETT
Detroit Free Press (TNS)

An NFL arbitrator upheld Dominic Raiola's one-game suspension Tuesday, ensuring the long-time Detroit Lions center will miss Sunday's NFC North showdown with the Green Bay Packers.

Raiola was suspended one game without pay on Monday for stepping on the ankle of Chicago Bears defensive tackle Ego Fergu-



RAIOLA

Raiola insisted after the game that the incident was unintentional, but the league said he violated Rule 12, Section 2, Article 12 of its rules book, which prohibits the kicking or kneeing of an opponent.

Hall-of-Fame linebacker Derrick Brooks, an appeals officer jointly appointed by the NFL and NFL Players Association, ruled in the league's favor Tuesday.

"It's an unfortunate situation," Lions linebacker Stephen Tulloch said on 105.1-FM. "Obviously, Raiola's been around a long time and he's a professional. It's just tough. I know obviously the league came down with a game suspension and he's a vital part of our team. He's the guy that anchors the offensive line and makes all the calls from the line of scrimmage, so not having him out there, he'll definitely be missed."

Tulloch said that Raiola stopped into the Lions practice facility for an off-day workout and made "a heartfelt apology" to several players for creating a "distraction."

See RAIOLA, page B3

Long fixing to get back
in lineup for Bears

By DAN WIEDERER
Chicago Tribune (TNS)

Kyle Long will play in the Chicago Bears' season finale Sunday in Minnesota. The Bears right guard insists he won't have it any other way.

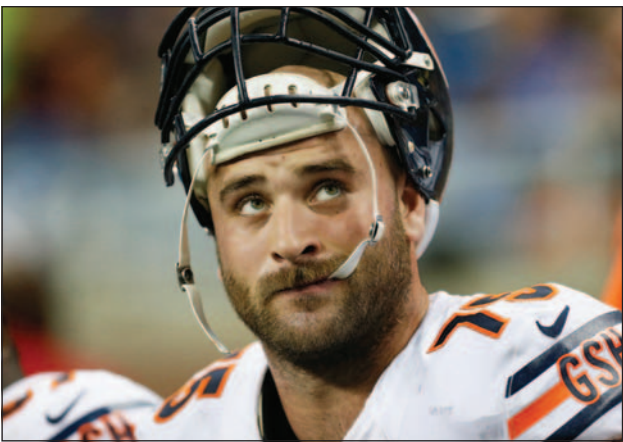
Long missed last weekend's game against the Lions due to a strained hip flexor, the first game he's missed in his two-year career.

And he's not about to go through another Sunday afternoon of restlessness this weekend when the Bears face the Vikings at TCF Bank Stadium.

"I'm excited for this," Long said Tuesday at Halas Hall, the same day he was chosen to participate in his second straight Pro Bowl. "I know that after this I'm going to be a couple months without football and I don't do well without football. So I have to get my last fix here."

Long tried to push through his hip pain last weekend during a pre-game workout at Soldier Field but didn't have the mobility he would have needed to go.

Long wanted the record set straight that it was far more than just soreness



Paul Sancya / AP

Chicago Bears guard Kyle Long looks toward the scoreboard during the first half of a game against the Detroit Lions on Thanksgiving.

that kept him out of action.

"I couldn't move," he said. "Just couldn't get it going. Anybody who knows me knows that I played 14 games this year with simple soreness. So that wouldn't have held me out. I couldn't go."

Now Long is vowing to be back in the fray this week and Bears coach Marc Trestman won't stand in his way.

Trestman said Long was uninhibited during the team's quick walk-through Tuesday and should be back at practice today with his eye on playing in the

season finale.

"Players like Kyle are always optimistic that they're going to play," Trestman said. "And we hope he goes. We'll see where he is."

Trestman expressed his admiration for Long's positive energy, a staple for the Bears over the past two seasons.

"He's got very unique leadership skills in terms of his love for the game, his intelligence level and his enthusiasm for the game," Trestman said. "We sorely would have liked him to play (against the Lions). But he did the best he could."

Broncos lead NFL
with 9 Pro Bowl picks

By SIMMI BUTTAR
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — The AFC West champion Denver Broncos led the NFL with nine players selected for the Pro Bowl on Tuesday.

Quarterback Peyton Manning was picked for the 14th time. Joining Manning from the Broncos will be Ryan Clady, Chris Harris, Von Miller, Aqib Talib, Demaryius Thomas, Julius Thomas, T.J. Ward and DeMarcus Ware. Denver also led the league with five defensive players selected.

The NFC East champion Dallas Cowboys were second with six selections for the Jan. 25 game in Glendale, Arizona, site of the Super Bowl.

Tony Romo will be going for the fourth time. Dez Bryant, Travis Frederick, Zack Martin, DeMarco Murray and Tyron Smith were also honored.

Dallas led the NFL with six offensive players chosen.

Other notable players selected included Super Bowl-winning quarterbacks New England's Tom Brady (10th selection), Green Bay's Aaron Rodgers (fourth), and Pittsburgh's Ben Roethlisberger (third).

Roethlisberger's teammate, wide receiver Antonio

Brown, was picked for the third time. Other receivers include Detroit's Calvin Johnson and Atlanta's Julio Jones.

And joining Brady from the AFC East champion Patriots are cornerback Darrelle Revis, tight end Rob Gronkowski, special teamer Matthew Slater and kicker Stephen Gostkowski.

Among the players earning first selections are wide receivers T.Y. Hilton of the Colts and Jordy Nelson of the Packers; Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell; and Eagles special teams star Darren Sproles.

"I think this year the difference has just been the amount of opportunities," Nelson said. "There have been more opportunities for Randall (Cobb) and myself and we have just been trying to make the most of them. I think for the most part we have been successful and just tried to help the offense put up as many yards and points as possible."

Martin, Aaron Donald of St. Louis and C.J. Mosley of Baltimore were the rookies selected.

Arian Foster was one of two Houston Texans honored, along with defensive end J.J. Watt.

See PRO BOWL, page B3

IN BRIEF

Cubs announce deal with catcher Ross

CHICAGO (AP) — Catcher David Ross has agreed to a \$5 million, two-year contract with the Chicago Cubs, reuniting him with batterymate Jon Lester.

The deal was announced Tuesday after an agreement was reached last week.

Ross gets a \$550,000 signing bonus plus \$2.25 million in salary in 2015 and 2016.

Ross often caught Lester in Boston the past two seasons, including both of the left-hander's starts in the 2013 World Series victory. Ross started behind the plate for Lester's last 11 starts this year before the Red Sox traded the pitcher to Oakland.

Ross, who will turn 38 in spring training, hit .184 with seven home runs and 15 RBIs in 50 games for Boston last season.

The Cubs got two-time All-Star catcher Miguel Montero in a trade with Arizona this month and still have Wellington Castillo behind the plate.

Chicago also claimed left-handed pitcher Mike Kikham off waivers from the San Francisco Giants and said catcher Ryan Lavarnway was claimed off waivers by Baltimore and first baseman Shane Peterson was claimed by Milwaukee.

Kickham made his major league debut with the Giants in 2013.

He has pitched in 14 games and made three starts over the past two seasons for San Francisco, going 0-3 with a 10.98 ERA.

He spent most of last season at Triple-A Fresno.

Bears place Young on IR, sign Lane

CHICAGO (AP) — The Chicago Bears have placed defensive end Willie Young on injured reserve because of a torn left Achilles tendon and signed defensive end Austen Lane.

Young, who had a career-high 10 sacks in his first season with the Bears, was injured in Sunday's loss to Detroit.

Lane has appeared in 30 games with 17 starts over four seasons with Jacksonville (2010-12) and Detroit (2013), collecting 64 tackles and three sacks. He signed with the Bears in the offseason but was released at the end of the preseason.

The Bears announced the moves on Tuesday. Chicago (5-10) finishes the season at Minnesota this week.

Ryan believes he'll win Super Bowl

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP) — Rex Ryan still believes he'll be a championship-winning coach in the NFL. Whether he gets another chance with the New York Jets remains to be seen.

Ryan says Tuesday he's confident "one day" he'll "definitely" win the Super Bowl as a head coach. He made the bold guarantee that the Jets would get one during his introductory news conference in 2009.

The Jets have missed the playoffs for four straight years after going to the AFC title game in Ryan's first two seasons. Ryan acknowledged he misses those winning days.

While owner Woody Johnson hasn't made his intentions public, there's a strong chance Ryan and perhaps general manager John Idzik could be fired after the season finale against the Dolphins in Miami on Sunday.

MLB average salary exceeds \$3.8 million

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Baseball's average salary shot up to more than \$3.8 million this year following the steepest rise in more than a decade, putting big leaguers on track to top the \$4 million barrier for the first time in 2015.

The Major League Baseball Players Association said Tuesday the average salary was \$3,818,923, up from \$3,386,212 last year. The 12.78 percent hike was the biggest since a 12.83 percent rise from 2000 to 2001.

Player salaries are spurring after several years of more modest gains. The increase is fueled by record revenue in the \$9 billion range, much of it from national television contracts and club deals with regional sports networks.

The average topped \$1 million for the first time in 1992, crossed the \$2 million barrier in 2001 and the \$3 million mark in 2010.

MLB's wages are a stark contrast to the economy at large. The average U.S. wage rose 1.3 percent in 2013 to \$43,041, according to the Social Security Administration.

Figures are based on 910 players. The union has based its annual studies on rosters and disabled lists as of Aug. 31 — the last day before active rosters expand from 25 per team to 40.

The commissioner's office, which uses slightly different methods, put its average at \$3,726,243.

MSU's Narduzzi may be off to Pitt

By KIRKLAND CRAWFORD and JAMES JAHNKE
Detroit Free Press (TNS)

Michigan State will be in the market for a new defensive coordinator, now that Pat Narduzzi is close to accepting the head coaching job at Pittsburgh.

Pete Thamel of Sports Illustrated and Joe Schad of ESPN Tuesday tweeted that

Narduzzi is "nearing completion" of his agreement with the Panthers.

He isn't expected to be introduced by Pitt until after Christmas, possibly Friday.

Yahoo Sports' Pat Forde had reported Monday night that Narduzzi was the school's leading candidate.

The 48-year-old Narduzzi, also an assistant head coach, had been a candidate for sev-

eral jobs in recent years. Forde reports that Narduzzi interviewed with Pitt and Colorado State within the last week, but CSU hired Georgia offensive coordinator Mike Bobo.

Narduzzi is the highest-paid coordinator in the Big Ten, making \$904,583 per year. Last season, he won the Broyles Award as the nation's top assistant. MSU

has had a top-10 defense the last four seasons.

Pittsburgh is looking for a replacement for Paul Chryst, who left to take over at Wisconsin.

MSU head coach Mark Dantonio said in August that Narduzzi "was offered positions" last year. He also said that the school administration "anted up to keep (Narduzzi) on the staff."



Alex Brandon / AP

Chicago Bulls guard Derrick Rose celebrates after a play in the second half of Tuesday's game against Washington. The Bulls won 99-91.

Rose, Gasol pace Bulls past Wizards

WASHINGTON (AP) — Derrick Rose scored 25 points and Pau Gasol had 18 as the Chicago Bulls won their fourth straight, beating the Washington Wizards 99-91 on Tuesday night.

A f t e r Washington scored 12 straight — 10 by John Wall — to take an 87-86 lead with 3:44 remaining, Chicago steadied and scored eight straight — six by Rose to lead 94-87 with 1:48 to play.

Wall led the Wizards with 18 points.

The Bulls outrebounded Washington 52-41.

On Monday, Chicago scored a franchise-record 49 points in the fourth quarter as they beat Toronto 129-120. Points were harder to come by a night later.

It was the first meeting of the teams this season. Washington defeated Chicago in the first round of last year's playoffs, 4-1.

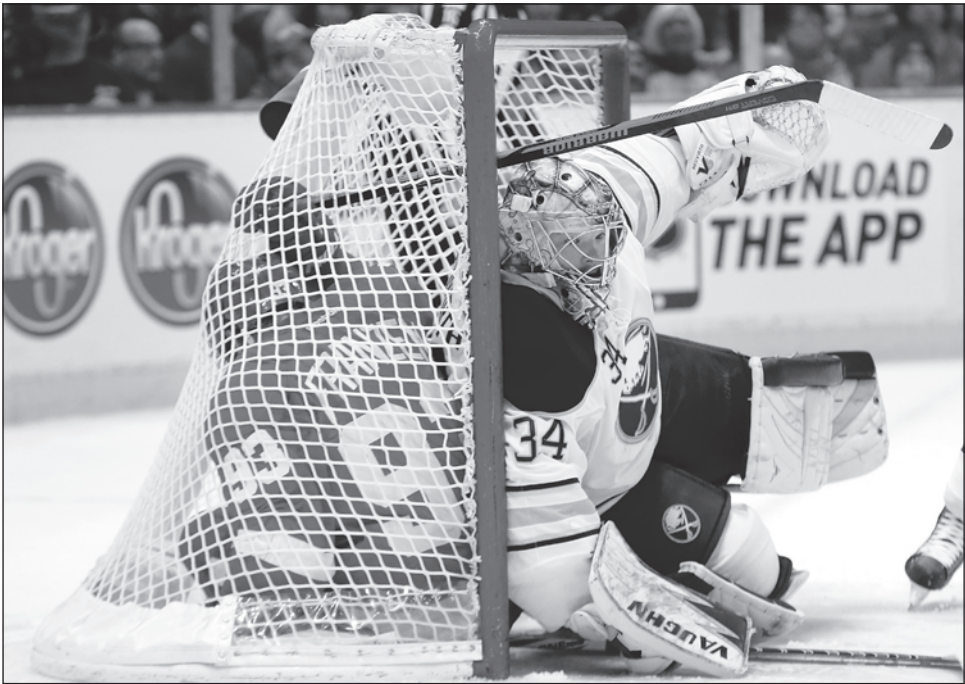
Rose and Wall faced each other for just the fifth time and the first since Jan. 30, 2012 because Rose had been injured for most of the past two seasons. The Bulls have won each of the five games Gasol made his first 3-point-

er of the season at the first quarter horn, and Rose hit one as the second quarter ended to give Chicago a 46-40 lead.

Bulls guard Kirk Hinrich did not make the trip due to tendinitis in his left knee.

Coach Tom Thibodeau said he thought Hinrich, who injured the knee in Monday night's game would miss "probably a couple of days. I'm not sure yet."

Thibodeau said that rookie Doug McDermott, who had arthroscopic surgery on his left knee, was making progress. He's not expected back before the middle of next month.



Paul Sancya / AP

Buffalo goalie Michal Neuvirth, right, traps Detroit's Johan Franzen in the net during play in the second period of Tuesday's game.

Wings end 6-game winless streak

DETROIT (AP) — Tomas Tatar had a pair of power-play goals in the third period Tuesday night and the Detroit Red Wings ended a six-game winless streak with a 6-3 victory over the Buffalo Sabres.

Tatar's 13th goal of the season gave the Red Wings the lead for good with 8:20 to play and Johan Franzen scored a few minutes later to pad the lead for the hosts, who hadn't won since Dec. 7. Tatar's second goal came in the final minutes.

Stephen Weiss, Danny DeKeyser and Henrik Zetterberg also scored for Detroit, which got 10 saves from Petr Mrazek.

Nicolas Deslauriers, Chris Stewart and Andre Benoit had goals for the banged-up Sabres, who were missing eight regulars due to injuries or illness. Michal Neuvirth returned from an illness and had 33 saves.

Buffalo got the game's first goal 2:36 in when Drew Stafford's shot struck Deslauriers' upper body and ricocheted past Mrazek.

Officials reviewed the play before calling it a goal.

Detroit's Weiss, who returned Tuesday after missing four games with a shoulder injury, evened it with a power-play goal midway through the first period.

Stewart's tally later in the first sent the Sabres to the break with a 2-1 lead.

Buffalo took a 3-1 lead halfway through the second when Benoit scored his first goal of the season on a

short-handed breakaway that began with a blocked shot near the Sabres' blue line.

DeKeyser cut into the lead with a slap shot off a turnover late in the period and Zetterberg tied it five minutes into the third with a slap shot of his own.

Notes: Red Wings defenseman Niklas Kronwall left the game with an upper body injury and did not return. Detroit placed goalie Jimmy Howard (groin) on short-term injured reserve Tuesday. The Sabres recalled forward Joel Armia from Rochester of the AHL and placed forward Marcus Foligno (hand) on injured reserve. Armia, who started Tuesday, is the fifth player Buffalo has recalled from its AHL affiliate since Saturday.

Sniffles won't stop Rodgers

Packers QB says he'll play Sunday against Lions

By GENARO C. ARMAS
AP Sports Writer

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Fighting back sniffles in front of his locker, Aaron Rodgers sounded at times like he would be better off resting up in bed.

But a lingering illness didn't keep the quarterback from Packers practice Tuesday. It doesn't sound like a strained left calf will keep him from playing in Sunday's showdown against the Detroit Lions, either, for the NFC North title.

"I'm feeling good — except for the sickness and the calf thing," Rodgers said with a laugh. "Other than that, I'm great, yeah."

Coach Mike McCarthy doesn't seem too concerned that Rodgers will be available to face the Lions after the quarterback tweaked the calf in last week's 20-3 win over Tampa Bay. He was already feeling ill by then, too.

"Yes, I think so," Rodgers said simply when asked if he would be ready for Sunday.

Assuming Rodgers does play, it's unclear how the illness and calf strain might affect his mobility. While he's not a run-pass threat, Rodgers is one of the best in the league in extending plays, and throwing the ball on the run while buying extra time.

Against Tampa, McCarthy said he had to adjust the game plan so that his quarterback wasn't further exposed to injury. Rodgers said he wasn't quite the running threat after the injury.

Now into Lambeau Field comes Detroit with one of the top defenses in the league.

The Lions can build on the confidence of holding Green Bay to a season-low seven points in Week 3.

Having Rodgers at full strength with the full playbook at his disposal would definitely help the Packers, who seek a fourth straight division title.

"We have a full-play game plan and I'm confident he'll be able to run it," McCarthy said.

Rodgers said the Packers will adjust accordingly if he doesn't have full mobility.

Green Bay practiced Tuesday, which is an off day in a normal week, but gets Christmas Day off Thursday in exchange. Then it's back to a normal work week, with the Packers back on the practice field Friday.

"I'd like to think with the Christmas holiday and everything that comes with it, that I'll be able to move around well enough," Rodgers said.

AIRWAVES

Television today

12:00 p.m. (ESPN) College Football Popeyes Bahamas Bowl — Central Michigan vs. Western Kentucky. (Live)
8:00 p.m. (ESPN) College Football Sheraton Hawaii Bowl — Fresno State vs. Rice. (Live)

Thursday

12:00 p.m. (ESPN) NBA Basketball Washington Wizards at New York Knicks. T (Live)
2:30 p.m. (7) (3) (4) (5) NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at San Antonio Spurs. (Live)
5:00 p.m. (7) (3) (4) (5) NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at Miami Heat. (Live)

6:30 p.m. (ESPN2) College Basketball Hawaiian Airlines Diamond Head Classic, Third Place (Live)
8:00 p.m. (TNT) NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at Chicago Bulls. (Live)
8:30 p.m. (ESPN2) College Basketball Hawaiian Airlines Diamond Head Classic, Final. (Live)
10:30 p.m. (TNT) NBA Basketball Golden State Warriors at Los Angeles Clippers. (Live)

Radio today

No area events scheduled.

Thursday

8 p.m. NBA — Lakers at Bulls (WMVP-AM, 1000)

CONTACT US

The Herald-Palladium sports desk is staffed after 7 p.m. nightly. Coaches or managers are asked to report results as soon as possible the evening of the event for publication in the next day's edition.

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BOWLING

KELLEY'S BOWL									
LAKESHORE LASSIES — Karyn Fricke 666 (241), Tricia Morris 610 (209), Brandy Antonowitsch 595 (226), Linda VanHoedt 574 (233), Sue Pries 568 (211), Sue Cooper 549 (202), Anita Skaggs 547 (209). Team: Nash-Fricke 1132, Gast-Van Hoedt (415).									
COLOMA LANES									
FRUIT BELT — Brad Hamilton 724 (248), Charlie Broadhurst 695 (257), Kyle Leamer 683 (246), Bryan Angelo 676 (300), Dennis Marsh 669 (258), Ray Steadmon 667 (243), Jerry Price 654 (234), Ron York 630 (241), Darryl Daugherty 621 (246), Tim Kling 616 (209).									

NHL

All Times EST						
EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Montreal	35	22	11	2	46	95 84
Tampa Bay	36	21	11	4	46	117 96
Detroit	35	18	8	9	45	100 87
Toronto	35	20	12	3	43	118 102
Boston	35	18	14	3	39	91 91
Florida	32	15	9	8	38	73 82
Ottawa	34	14	14	6	34	90 94
Buffalo	35	13	19	3	29	69 115
Metropolitan Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Pittsburgh	34	22	7	5	49	108 80
N.Y. Islanders	34	23	11	0	46	105 94
N.Y. Rangers	32	18	10	4	40	97 83
Washington	34	17	11	6	40	99 90
Philadelphia	34	14	14	6	34	97 101
Columbus	33	14	16	3	31	80 107
New Jersey	36	12	17	7	31	78 104
Carolina	34	10	20	4	24	70 93

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Monday's Games									
Florida 4, Pittsburgh 3, SO									
Washington 2, Ottawa 1									
Nashville 5, Columbus 1									
Vancouver 7, Arizona 1									
Anaheim 3, San Jose 2, OT									
Calgary 4, Los Angeles 3, OT									
Tuesday's Games									
Carolina 2, New Jersey 1, SO									
Boston 5, Nashville 3									
Montreal 3, N.Y. Islanders 1									
N.Y. Rangers 4, Washington 2									
Philadelphia 5, Minnesota 2									
Toronto 4, Dallas 0									
Detroit 6, Buffalo 3									
Tampa Bay 4, Pittsburgh 3									
Arizona 5, Edmonton 1									
Colorado 5, St. Louis 0									
Winnipeg at Chicago									
Today's Games									
No games scheduled									
Thursday's Games									
No games scheduled									

RED WINGS 6, SABRES 3

Buffalo	2	1	0	—	3
Detroit	1	1	4	—	6
First Period —1, Buffalo, Deslauriers 3 (Stafford, Flynn), 2:36, 2, Detroit, Weiss 5 (Kindl, Nyquist), 10:50 (pp), 3, Buffalo, Stewart 4 (C.Hodgson, Grigorenko), 13:35. Penalties—Girgensons, Buf (hooking), 9:23.					
Second Period —4, Buffalo, Benoit 1 (Flynn), 9:00 (sh), 5, Detroit, DeKeyser 2 (Jurco, Glendening), 17:54. Penalties—Datsyuk, Det (tripping), 4:46; Zadorov, Buf (holding), 7:55; Deslauriers, Buf (roughing), 14:48.					
Third Period —6, Detroit, Zetterberg 7 (Datsyuk, Abdelkader), 4:19, 7, Detroit, Tatar 13 (DeKeyser, Nyquist), 11:40 (pp), 8, Detroit, Franzen 7 (Zetterberg, Kindl), 14:06 (pp), 9, Detroit, Tatar 14 (Smith, Nyquist), 17:48 (pp).					
Penalties —Flynn, Buf (delay of game), 9:53; Larsson, Buf (slashing), 12:46; Meszaros, Buf (holding), 17:14.					
Shots on Goal —Buffalo 6-4-6—16. Detroit 15-11-13—39.					
Power-play opportunities —Buffalo 0 of 1; Detroit 4 of 6.					
Goalies —Buffalo, Neuirth 3-8-1 (39 shots-33 saves). Detroit, Mrazek 4-2-1 (16-13). A—20,027 (20,027). T—2-29.					
Referees—Dan O'Halloran, Brian Pochmara. Linesmen—Greg Devorski, Mark Shewchuk.					

NBA

Buffalo 2 1 0 — 3
 Detroit 1 1 4 — 6

First Period—1, Buffalo, Deslauriers 3 (Stafford, Flynn), 2:36, 2, Detroit, Weiss 5 (Kindl, Nyquist), 10:50 (pp), 3, Buffalo, Stewart 4 (C.Hodgson, Griegorenko), 13:35, Penalties—Girgensons, Buf (hooking), 9:23.

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Goalies—Buffalo, Neuvirth 3-8-1 (39 shots—33 saves), Detroit, Mrazek 4-2-1 (16-13).

A—20,027 (20,027). T—2,229.

Referees: Dan O'Halloran, Brian Pochmura. Linesmen: Greg Dworski, Mark Shawchuk.

Dallas	20	9	.690	1½
San Antonio	18	11	.621	3½
New Orleans	14	14	.500	
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	22	7	.759	
Oklahoma City	13	15	.464	8½
Denver	12	17	.414	10
Utah	9	20	.310	13
Minnesota	5	22	.185	16
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	23	3	.885	
L.A. Clippers	19	10	.655	5½
Phoenix	15	14	.517	9½
Sacramento	12	16	.429	12
L.A. Lakers	8	19	.296	15½

Charlotte 110, Denver 82
Chicago 129, Toronto 120
Houston 110, Portland 95
Utah 97, Memphis 91
Atlanta 105, Dallas 102
San Antonio 125, L.A. Clippers 118
Golden State 128, Sacramento 108

Tuesday's Games

Chicago 99, Washington 91
Orlando 100, Boston 95
Indiana 96, New Orleans 84
Cleveland 125, Minnesota 104
Atlanta 107, L.A. Clippers 104
Philadelphia 91, Miami 87
Brooklyn 102, Denver 96
Charlotte 108, Milwaukee 101
Portland at Oklahoma City
Dallas at Phoenix
Golden State at L.A. Lakers

Today's Games

No games scheduled

Thursday's Games

Washington at New York, 12 p.m.
Oklahoma City at San Antonio, 2:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Miami, 5 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Golden State at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

hp OUR TOWN

Got news for 'Our Town'?

Do you have some news about your hometown that you would like to see in the paper? Send it to "Our Town" in care of Features Editor Katie Krawczak at The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; deliver it to 3450 Hollywood Road; fax it to The HP at 429-4398; or send email to focus@TheHP.com. Timely news about upcoming events should be received two weeks prior to the events.



Sue Burch, from left, president of Child and Family Services Auxiliary; Ruth Edlefson and Susan Meny, co-chairpersons of the 2014 Ice Cream Social; and Dana Carmona, Safe Shelter house manager, are shown with some of the gifts that will be delivered to Safe Shelter.

Photo provided

CFS gets a boost from auxiliary

BENTON HARBOR — Child and Family Services Auxiliary members assisted Santa recently in delivering a \$9,000 check for West Michigan Guardianship and collecting items for Safe Shelter.

Both are programs of Child & Family Services of Southwestern Michigan. Proceeds from the annual Ice Cream Social in July on the Whitcomb Veranda enabled the auxiliary to donate \$9,000 to West

Michigan Guardianship. The program offers services to individuals who are unable to manage their own everyday living or financial needs without some help. They offer conservatorship, guardianship,

representative payee and power of attorney assistance. Gifts for the Safe Shelter included sheets, diapers, personal products and many other items donated by auxiliary members. Safe

shelter provides emergency shelter for female victims of domestic violence and their children. The program offers counseling, job training, case management, legal advocacy and outreach services.

IN BRIEF

Benefit to help with medical expenses

STEVENSVILLE — A silent auction and raffle to raise money to help with medical expenses for a 14-year-old Stevensville girl will begin at 6 p.m. Friday at 5 O'Clock Sports Bar, 5000 Red Arrow Highway.

Shortly before she turned 9, Madison Gean, daughter of Tracy Gean, was attacked by a young stray dog the family took in because there wasn't a spot available at area animal shelters. Friends and family so far have raised \$4,500 for out-of-network medical expenses to get her to New York for a consultation with a facial reconstructive surgeon.

To date, she has required multiple surgeries to fix her eyelid and her leg, and now she needs surgery to regain function of her eyelid, repair movement of her left eye and correct double vision.

For more information, call Tracy Gean at 208-8687.

Lifeguard training offered at YMCA

ST. JOSEPH — The St. Joseph-Benton Harbor YMCA is offering lifeguard training from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 29, 30 and 31.

The minimum age for certification is 16. First Aid and CPR are required and offered during the course.

Cost is \$200 for members and \$250 for nonmembers.

To register, call 428-9622 or stop by the YMCA, 3665 Hollywood Road.

LIBRARIES

Benton Harbor

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday.

The library will be closed Dec. 31-Jan. 4 in observance of the New Year holiday and for the monthly staff furlough weekend.

All-Ages Gaming will also be available from noon-2:30 p.m. Saturday.

All-Ages Activity Afternoons will be held during the holiday break from 2-5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. Kids and teens may come in for crafts, melty beads, games, movies, and refreshments on a come-and-go basis anytime during these hours.

Berrien Springs

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday.

When Berrien Springs Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, the library will be closed.

Chips & Chapters, After-school Gaming and Story Time will be on hiatus Dec. 22-29 for Berrien Springs schools' winter break.

LEGO Club will meet from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday in the Community Room. Finished projects will be put on display in the library for all to see.

There will be a paper airplane contest in the Children's Department at 2 p.m. Monday for students of all ages.

The library will be hosting a fun afternoon of cookies, cocoa, and board games for kids from 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Bridgman

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday. The library also will close at 5 p.m. Dec. 31 and will remain closed Jan. 1.

Food for Fines program will run through Jan. 10.

Knit 'n' Yarn Knitters meet 1-3 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays.



Photo provided

Santa and Mrs. Claus visited the Buchanan District Library recently. Kids decorated cookies, made an ornament, and got to sit on Santa's lap.

American war memorabilia will be on display in the Community Room through Jan. 16.

Buchanan

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday and will be closed Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for the New Year holiday.

Story Time will return Jan. 13.

Jack Knight Café will return Jan. 15.

Coloma

The library will be closed today, Thursday and Friday in observance of the Christmas holiday. Doors will reopen at 10 a.m. Saturday.

The library has a new resource that uses technology to make tracing family trees easier. Ancestry Library Edition will allow you to start exploring your

roots by searching a surname. The program can be used on any of the computer workstations at the library. You do need to have a library card.

Hartford

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday.

"Rio 2" (rated G) will be shown at 1 p.m. Friday.

"Muppets Most Wanted" (rated PG) will be shown at 1 p.m. Monday.

"Mr. Peabody and Sherman" (rated PG) will be shown Tuesday at 1 p.m.

Lincoln

The library will be closed today, Thursday and Friday in observance of the Christmas holiday, and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for the New Year holiday.

Toddler Tunes and Tales will be at 10:30 Tuesday.

Niles

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday.

Polar Express Party will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday. Watch the movie, do a craft and drink hot chocolate.

The Coalition will meet at 2 p.m. Saturdays.

Chess Club is for all ages and ability levels. Want to learn? We are willing to teach you at 10 a.m. Jan. 3.

Winter reading bingo is back by popular demand. Pick up your bingo sheet. Get a bingo by completing the tasks in the spaces, then bring your card to the Youth Services Desk for a raffle ticket. Raffle tickets can be placed into any of our movie prize packs for a chance to win. Game runs Jan. 1-March 28.

St. Joseph

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday. We will reopen from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday.

Janet Snelgrove will be at the library at 5:30 p.m. Mondays for Tai Chi.

Lakeshore Rug Hookers meet at the library from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays.

The final leg of the inventory project is in full swing again. The library will be closed until 3 p.m. Thursdays.

Register your team for our Ugly Sweater Edition of "Trivia Night fundraiser at The Heritage Museum and Cultural Center Jan. 10. Adults and teens are invited to create teams of up to eight people. \$10 per person entry fee (sorry, no discount for teen team members). Cash prize will be awarded to the top team.

We will also have an award for the "ugliest sweater." Doors open at 6 p.m., 10 rounds of 10 questions start at 7 p.m.

Sodus

The library will be open from 2-5 p.m. today and Dec. 31. The library will remain closed Thursday and Jan. 1 and will resume usual hours on Friday and Jan. 2.

Game Group meets at 2:15 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. Needlework Club meets at 2:15 p.m. every Monday thereafter.

Story hour will be from 10:30-11 a.m. Tuesday.

The next Library Board meeting is at 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Displayed in the Community Room are issues of 2013 magazines. They are free. Help yourselves.

South Haven

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday.

The library will close early Dec. 31 and remain closed Jan. 1 for the New Year holiday.

Tunebugs and Storytime will not be held Friday or Tuesday.

Three Oaks

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday.

Storytime will be 10:30 a.m. Fridays.

Van Buren

Van Buren District Library announces that all locations will be closed Thursday and Friday in observance of the Christmas holiday. All branches will close at 4 p.m. Dec. 31 and reopen Jan. 2.

Watervliet

The library will be closed today and Thursday in observance of the Christmas holiday. We are also closed Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

Toddler Time is at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays.

Yoga class will be at 7 p.m. Jan. 7.

Jeremy Bonfiglio
Entertainment Writer

PRIME TIME TV

WEDNESDAY EVENING DEC. 24							
	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle	The Gold-bergs	Modern Family	:31 black-ish	black-ish	black-ish
CBS	Entertain-ment Ton.	I Love Lucy Christmas Special	:01 Madam Secretary	Scorpion "Plutonium Is Forever"			
NBC	Access Hollyw'd	It's a Wonderful Life '46 James Stewart. A guardian angel strengthens a man ruined by a miser. (DVS)					
FOX	Modern Family	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Brooklyn Nine-Nine	Brooklyn Nine-Nine	Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N)	
PBS	Steves' Europe	Nature "The Himalayas"	NOVA Gothic cathedrals.	NOVA Gothic cathedrals.	NOVA Experimental mini-Duomo.		
CW	Big Bang Theory	Mr. Magoo's Christmas Carol '62, Fantasy			Madagas-car	News	Seinfeld
MNT	Family Feud	The Walking Dead "Hounded"		The Walking Dead		Big Bang Theory	The Simp-sons
WCIU	Mike & Molly	House of Payne	House of Payne	We There Yet?	We There Yet?	Family Guy	Raising Hope
WHME	M*A*S*H	Gospel Music Pres-ents: A Gospel		The Harvest Show News and music.		Paid Program	Joyce Meyer
WSBT	:00 WSBT News at 7	ES.TV	ES.TV	Dr. Phil		News	Dish Na-tion (N)
A&E	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty		Duck Dynasty		Duck Dynasty	:31 Duck Dynasty
AMC	:00 Big Jake '71, Western	John Wayne, Richard Boone.		Rio Bravo '59 John Wayne, Dean Martin.			
Animal	Too Cute!	Too Cute!		Too Cute!		:01 Too Cute!	
BET	:00 Madea's Big Happy Family					Nellyville	
Big Ten	:00 BTN Game of the Week			BTN Live		BTN Football in 60	
Bravo	6:00 Pearl Harbor '01 Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett.		Pearl Harbor '01, War	Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett, Kate Beckinsale.			
Cartoon	Regular	King/Hill	King/Hill	Cleveland	Cleveland	American	American
Cinemax	6:15 R.I.P.D.	Deck the Halls '06, Comedy Danny DeVito.					
CMT	Raising	A Christmas Story 2 '12, Comedy Daniel Stern.					
CNBC	The Filthy	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	Anthony	Anthony Bourd.		Anthony Bourd.		Anthony Bourd.	
Comedy	Dunham	Jeff Dunham: All		Gabriel Iglesias: Aloha		Fluffy	Iglesias
CSNC	Sports	Figure Skating				Preview	Football
Discovery	Last Frontier	Alaska: The Last Frontier		Alaska: The Last Frontier		Alaska: The Last Frontier	
Disney	Home	:10 Home Alone 3 '97				Rebels	Dog
DIY	Holmes	Holmes Makes		Holmes Makes		Holmes Makes	
E!	Hamptons	Take the Hamptons		Take the Hamptons		Take the Hamptons	
Encore	Space Jam '96	Monsters University '13 :45 Michael '96, Drama John Travolta, iTV.					
ESPN	SportCtr	College Football Sheraton Hawaii Bowl -- Fresno State vs. Rice.					
ESPN2	:00 30 for 30			:30 for 30			
ESPNc	Basket	NBA From Jan. 28, 2004.				NBA	
Family	:00 National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation '89			Elf '03, Comedy Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart.			
Food	Cutthroat	Diners, Drive		Diners, Drive		Kitchen Inferno	
Fox News	Record	A FOX & Friends Christmas (N)				Hannity (N)	
Fox Sports	Football	High School Football					
FX	Puss in Boots	How to Train Your Dragon '10 Voices of Jay Baruchel, Gerard Butler.				Kung Fu Panda 2 '11	
G4	Soup	Soup	Soup	Proving	Proving	Proving	Proving
Golf	6:00 Tin Cup	The Greatest Game Ever Played '05					
Hallmark	Christmas With Holly	Best Christmas Party Ever '14, Drama Torrey DeVitto, Steve Lund.				Northpole '14 Tiffani Thiessen.	
HBO	Grudge Match	Black Nativity '13 Forest Whitaker, (P).				The Best Man Holiday '13 Morris Chestnut.	
History	Pickers	American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers	
HGTV	Lakefront	Property Brothers		Property Brothers		Hunters	Hunt Intl
Learning	Santa	The Secret Santa				The Secret Santa	
Lifetime	All About	Christmas With the Kranks '04				Holiday Switch	
MSNBC	Hardball	All In With Chris		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Ridic.	Bad Santa '03 Tony Cox				* Friday After Next	
NFL	NFL Total	NFL Replay (N)		Inside the NFL (N)		NFL Films	
Nick	Sponge.	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Full H'se	Prince	Prince
NGEO	The Leg	The Leg	The Leg	The Leg	The Leg	The Leg	The Leg
Oxygen	:00 Tyler Perry's Madea's Witness Protection '12, Comedy Tyler Perry.			:35 Tyler Perry's Madea's Witness Protection '12			
Showtime	6:55 Silver Linings Play-book '12 Bradley Cooper.		Homeland Carrie and Saul investigate.		The Affair		
Spike	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
Starz	6:40 Thor: The Dark World '13	:40 The Amazing Spider-Man 2 '14, Action Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone, Jamie Foxx. iTV.					
SyFy	:00 Wizard Wars	Wizard Wars "Battle of the Vegas Strip"		Wizard Wars "Blown Away"		Wizard Wars "Battle of the Vegas Strip"	
TBS	Seinfeld	A Christmas Story '83, Comedy Peter Billingsley, Darren McGavin.				A Christmas Story '83	
TCM	Meet-St. Louis	The Man Who Came to Dinner '41 Monty Woolley, Bette Davis. (DVS)				Christmas in Connecticut '45	
TMC	Ain't-Bod-ies	Four Brothers '05, Crime Drama Mark Wahlberg, Tyrese Gibson.				Judge Dredd '95	
TNT	:00 Castle	A Christmas Story '83				A Christmas Story	
Travel	Man v Fd	Bizarre Foods		Bizarre Foods		Food Paradise	
TV Land	Walker, Tex. Ranger	Raymond		Raymond		Cleveland	The Exes
USA	Law & Or-der: SVU	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	
VH1	:00 Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl					SNL	
WGN-A	Muppet-Carol	:15 The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause '06, Comedy Tim Allen, Martin Short.				The Family Man	

Health advice, in a nutshell

DEAR DOCTOR K: Can you boil down all of the health advice out there? What do I need to do to age successfully?

DEAR READER: Wow, that's a tall order. Thirty years ago, when I heard people talk about "successful aging," they were talking about avoiding disease and living longer.

These days, we want more. Of course we want to live long, disease-free lives. But we also want to be physically fit and functional. We want to stay emotionally healthy. And we want our minds and memories to remain sharp.

In fact, a growing number of my patients, and my friends, tell me they want to have a long life only if the extra years fit this description. As one patient said to me, "I want to prolong my life, so long as I don't also prolong my decrepitude."

Researchers from the Harvard School of Public Health set out to determine the impact a healthy lifestyle could have on aging. They analyzed data collected from the Nurses' Health Study of more than 100,000 women to estimate how a healthy lifestyle at midlife influenced aging decades later. They defined successful aging as reaching age 70 while meeting these four criteria:

- no major chronic diseases,

such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes or cancer;

- no cognitive impairment, meaning memory loss or worsening of basic thinking skills;

- no major disabilities that limit the ability to walk around freely and conduct normal daily activities;

- no major problems with mental health, such as anxiety or depression.

Here's what they found:

High-Quality Diet

Women who stuck closest to a healthy diet boosted their odds of successful aging by 34 percent. A healthy diet emphasizes fruits, vegetables, whole grains and fish. It minimizes processed and red meat, sugar-sweetened drinks, trans fats and sodium.

Regular Exercise

This includes all forms of daily physical activity, including walking. Women who were the most active nearly doubled their odds of successful aging, compared with the most sedentary nurses.

Healthy Body Weight

Having a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or above (a level defined as obesity) lowered the

odds of successful aging by about 80 percent.

Moderate Alcohol Consumption

In the Nurses' Health Study, light to moderate alcohol use (one or two drinks a day, on three to four days of the week) increased the odds of good long-term health by about 20 to 30 percent.

Since many of you ask questions about healthy lifestyle, we discuss it frequently in this column. Therefore, I doubt it will surprise anyone that the factors I've listed above are good for your health.

But the point made by the Harvard School of Public Health study is just how good for you these lifestyle practices are. For example, there are no medicines yet invented that can double your chance of successful aging, as we've defined it. Yet regular exercise can do that. Studies of hundreds of thousands of people over their adult lifetimes prove that a healthy lifestyle can do more for successful aging than any medical technology. And even though this study involved women, other studies find that healthy lifestyle is just as beneficial for men.

Dr. Komaroff is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School. To send questions, go to AskDoctorK.com, or write: Ask Doctor K, 10 Shattuck St., Second Floor, Boston, MA 02115.

'Alpha girl' with a temper sounds short on maturity

DEAR CAROLYN: My wife is an amazing woman. She is beautiful and smart and a great mother. She also has a temper and does not take any slight – intended or not – lightly. She was, I guess, an alpha girl growing up.

Anyway, we weren't invited to another couple's party recently. We weren't such great friends but we are in the same social circle. My wife went nuclear on the woman who threw the party, going off on her via text.

I'm fairly certain our friends know. People are starting to distance themselves from us. I feel like there is nothing I can say to my wife or to this other couple now to change the situation, and I'm worried that people will think my wife, who I think is amazing, isn't. Is there anything I can do? – Not Invited

DEAR NOT INVITED: Interesting choice of words, "growing up." Someone who can't or won't brush off an insult, and instead unleash her fury on perceived offenders, is a child who got off the bus to maturity a few steps too soon.

This is where it gets complicated for me: I love that you love your wife, frailties and all. I love the idea, at least, that she's a great

mother. (A temper leading to behavior as unhinged as rage-texting a hostess would seem to pre-empt maternal greatness, though you say nothing of how she behaves at home.) In asking me what you can do, you put me in a position to advise siding against your wife, and that just feels wrong. Maybe not in a literal sense, since tacitly condoning her outburst through silence is the strict wrong answer here – but wrong in the way it should feel when you're basically trying to persuade a contented person (and spouse and co-parent) not to be.

There's also the practical problem of easing your particular worry. Your wife is only as amazing to others as she chooses to behave in their presence. Any damage to her friendships from this or other lashings-out is, you must already realize, wholly deserved.

And, there's the uncomfortable truth that you sound dishearteningly like so many co-opted mates of abusive or merely volatile people, out there making excuses for them and drawing smileys on their

meltdowns in hopes of proving – to your friends and families? to yourselves? – they're really really not like this, no really.

So here's what I've got. Your wife's outburst hurt her far more than it did her intended target – and when people are hurting themselves, their intimates must try to stop it. "X happened. Now Y is happening. This is neither the first nor likely the last time. I'd like to talk about counseling for anger management."

It might backfire, you might become the latest nuke-ee, but it's time someone tried to steer this amazing, immature, potentially very harmful person toward help.

This outburst hurt you, too, and not just by apparently costing you friends; volatility in general hurts loved ones by forcing them always to watch what they say. It's a form of control. Children especially, since their health rides on the emotional safety of home. So if Mama's temper makes any but the rarest appearances in your home, then it's time for you to have your own conversation with a professional qualified to help.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon Eastern time each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Drill

5 Take a spouse

10 Tangles

12 Chosen field

13 Soothsayer

14 Non-earthlings

15 Inactive

16 Hosp. staffers

18 Banned pesticide

19 Trouser features

22 Ipso —

25 Firefly or scarab

29 Ready to drop (2 wds.)

30 Canning jar size

32 Showing a lack of experience

33 Dis-connected

34 Incantations

37 Maneuvers slowly

38 Hayseeds

40 Green parrot

DOWN

1 Minstrel

2 Racetrack

3 Willing to listen

4 Annex

5 "Bien" opposite

6 Moistureless

7 Plant in a swamp

8 Budget

9 Soph. and jr.

10 King, in Paris

11 Withered

12 Hindu social class

Answer to Previous Puzzle

H	U	L	A	B	R	A	S	P
A	M	E	S	O	L	E	E	L
L	A	T	T	I	C	I	E	S
E	C	O	S	T	O	O	P	S
C	A	D	R	E	R	I	F	T
A	M	A	S	T	R	A	I	N
P	I	N	K	R	O	C	E	V
E	D	E	N	E	A	R	D	E
O	P	E	N	E	R	A	S	P
Y	A	W	S	I	S	L	E	S
H	A	W	A	I	F	L	U	
A	H	A	B	G	R	E	E	D
R	O	I	L	O	I	L	S	R
D	O	T	E	R	A	T	Y	E

17 Apprehend

20 Desolate

21 Follow-up

22 Season-ticket holder

23 Woe is me!

24 Cut, as coupons

26 Light lunch item (2 wds.)

27 Young chaps

28 Huron neighbor

31 NFL events

35 Relaxes

36 Compete in a slalom

39 Famous lioness

40 Inspector Clouseau's valet

41 This, to Pedro

42 Poker pair

45 Wide st.

46 High notes

47 Last year's jrs.

48 Habit

49 Painter's work

51 I, to Claudius

Want more puzzles?

Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at [QuillDriverBooks.com](#)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10				11		12		
13						14		
15					16	17		
			19	20			21	
22	23	24			25	26	27	28
29						30		31
32						33		
	34				35	36		
						37		
	40	41	42		43		44	45
46					49		50	51
52							53	
54								55

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Jumble

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LEMPI

GRPUE

DUGERT

ICOSAF

It will look beautiful.

I'll cover some of the bare spots.

Check out the new, free JUS JUMBLE app

WHEN THEY ADDED ORNAMENTS TO THE CHRISTMAS TREE, THEY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CUBIC HABIT SKIMPY INDOOR

Answer: The archaeologist wished the caveman was still alive so he could — PICK HIS BRAIN

BRIDGE

Dean Martin said, "When your opponent's sittin' there holdin' all the aces, there's only one thing to do: Kick over the table."

When you seem not to have a way to make your contract, wonder if your opponents might be able to help you out. If not, kick over the table! (Yes, that's a joke.)

In this deal, South is in three no-trump. What should he do after West leads his fourth-highest heart and East puts up the king?

South's sequence shows a balanced 25-27 points. It is a bad auction for standard bidders, because if North has a very weak hand with a four- or five-card major, he does not know whether it is safe to

use Stayman or a transfer. There is a solution, called Kokish, but it isn't perfect and has some complexity. You can find details on the Internet.

South seems to have nine top tricks: one spade, one heart, four diamonds and three clubs. However, he cannot get that third club trick, because the suit is blocked and he does not have a dummy entry. How can he get around the problem?

He needs to call on West's assistance. Declarer ducks the first trick, takes East's heart return with his ace and cashes his six minor-suit winners. Then he leads his heart jack.

West can cash three heart winners, but then must either lead a club to

KAKURO

Difficulty Level ★★★

12-24

17	35	16	9		35	9	21	
15				24				10
26				9	24			
13			23				5	
9			11		18		22	
27			29		29		23	17
3	8			4		11		
4	3	12		18		23	4	
16			3			13		
		6				28		

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.

Answer to previous puzzle

8	9	1	2	8	9	8
5	7	8	9	6	7	5
1	4	8	9	8	9	7
6	8	9	9	7	8	9
6	3	7	8	9		
9	7	1	8	7	5	4
8	6	9	7	2	8	9
8	6	9	2	7	3	1
9	7	1	3	4	2	

Difficulty Level: ★★

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 4 (of 5)

		2		6	9			
		3		7				
4				2		8		
				2	9		7	
	7	3			1		6	
	4		8					
			9		7		5	
6	1				8			1
				5				

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

4	8	7	3	1	2	5	6	9
1	9	5	6	8	7	2	4	3
3	2	6	4	5	9	8	1	7
2	4	1	8	3	6	7	9	5
5	3	9	1	7	4	6	2	8
7	6	8	2	9	5			

CLASSIFIEDS



FIREWOOD

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Walnut Dining Room Set (Includes China Closet, Table, 4 side chairs and arm chair) \$1750, Bassett Pine Armchair \$300, Bassett Pine China Closet \$250, Antique French Desk \$425, Antique English Desk \$350, White Wooden Antique Dresser \$350. Call 269-355-4346 for information.

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